20p

WORLD SOCCER

The *INTERNATIONAL* Magazine

MAY 1973

AUSTRIA 1973

Left to right: HOFF, SARA, STAREK, KRIEGEL, HAKENBERG and KONCILIAN

Front row: JARA, KUGELBERGER, PUMM, EIGENTILER and GALOSS

World Soccer
KAZIMIERE DEYNA
Legia Warsaw and Poland

WORLD SOCCER
incorporating SOCCER STAR
The INTERNATIONAL Magazine

79 TEMPLE CHAMBERS - LONDON EC4
Telephone: 01-353 5688

Editor PHILIP RISING

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MAY WORLD SOCCER, 1973
VOL. 13 No. 8

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WORLD SOCCER (incorporating SOCCER STAR) is published monthly by Websters Publications Ltd., 79 Temple Chambers, London, E.C.4, England. Situated at this address are the magazine's Editorial, Advertising and Publishing offices. Printed by The Chesham Press Ltd., Chesham, Buckinghamshire. © Websters Publications Ltd. Registered at the Post Office as a newspaper.

English hopes blunted

DERBY COUNTY face a tough task in reaching the European Cup Final at the first attempt. Their 3-1 first leg defeat against Juventus in Turin was a bitter blow, made much more so by the bookings of Roy McFarland and Archie Gemmell. Both automatically miss the second leg, after also being cautioned against Spartak Trnava.

Derby, indeed, were fortunate not to lose by more than two goals although they were hampered by poor refereeing. McFarland, especially, was unfortunate to have his name taken and Derby were obviously put out of their stride by continually being pulled up for alleged offences.

England's bid to win all three European tournaments is not looking too healthy at present. Leeds United beat Hajduk Split 1-0 at home but would have liked, and should have got, more goals. Allan Clarke, scorer of the goal, was sent off and he, too, will sit out the second leg. Leeds have overcome more difficult hurdles than this one but Hajduk have already accounted for a Welsh and a Scottish club on their own territory. Now for an English club . . .

Tottenham and Liverpool fight out one of the UEFA Cup semi-finals, so at least England is assured of one finalist. The odds must slightly favour Tottenham, who go into the home leg trailing by one goal. Pat Jennings, their outstanding goalkeeper, has done much to keep them in this competition.

Ajax Amsterdam, who are bidding for a hat-trick of European Cup successes, cannot be too pleased with their first leg result: a 2-1 victory over Real Madrid. There are definite signs that this 'new' Real side is the best to emerge from Spain for a long time. If they eliminate Ajax, and reach the final, it could signify the start of a new era.

On the domestic scene in England, the shock of the season put Sunderland into the FA Cup Final at the expense of Arsenal. Few could have envisaged this result, but Sunderland's 2-1 win was thoroughly justified and says much for the work of Bob Stokoe, who has achieved a great deal during his short reign as manager at Roker Park.

Sunderland will meet Leeds United, still very much in contention for three titles. Leeds will fancy their chances but who can discount Sunderland now?

GREAT BRITAIN

N. IRELAND
by COLIN McALPIN

Eusebio scores a penalty for Portugal against Northern Ireland.

Players launch campaign to fight crisis

THE Northern Ireland Professional Footballer's Association, which claims an almost total membership of the Irish League's paid players, recently launched a campaign to get the supporters of the 12 senior clubs on their side in the fight to force the authorities—the Irish Football Association and the Irish Football League—to really get to grips with the problems facing the local game.

The first move was the calling of a players-supporters meeting in a Belfast hotel at which the rank-and-file fans discussed, for the first time ever, the uncertain future of the League. And from that meeting came several excellent ideas.

The major plan came from the P.T.A. They want to meet club officials and fans on their own doorstep and have asked for a series of whistle-stop meetings over the coming months at which all sides of football can, it is hoped, produce ideas on which to base future action.

Ignored

Jackie Hutton, secretary of the P.F.A. and skipper of title-chasing Portadown, explained: "We felt that the fans have been ingnored for far too long. Many of the supporters have excellent ideas for the future well being of the game and we decided to get together to see what we could jointly come up with. Our initial meeting, which was well attended by a good cross-section of club representatives, proved that the people who really keep the game going, the men who play and the men who pay, want to help map the future."

Another suggestion calls for the Northern Ireland Sports Council, recently reorganised and given wider powers, to produce a detailed report on the complete workings of Ulster soccer and to suggest, if possible, improvements.

And a third idea is for a joint P.F.A.-Supporters working committee to examine proposals and, if they prove valuable, pass them along to a higher authority for action.

The basic idea behind the meetings followed the two, largely negative, summit meetings called by the I.F.A. and League at which club officials met to see what improvements could be made in the structure of the game. Nothing concrete came of those meetings—to which, by the way, interested parties like the fans, players and press were not invited—so the players decided to go it alone.

Listen

The immediate reaction from the top came from League president Billy Kennedy who commented: "We have tried all sorts of things to improve the game ourselves but if anybody has anything to offer we'll certainly listen to them."

The players and fans are hoping Mr. Kennedy means what he says . . . certainly they are assuming he does and will be getting in touch!

Seldom has there been a more interesting, not to say nail-chewing, finish to the Irish League title race. With a mere four games to go five clubs were playing turn-about to lead the table . . . and as I write this column at the beginning of April any one of the five could be the eventual winners.

Depressing

Portadown surged into the lead with a late rally, Crusaders faltered from their great early-season form but kept picking up the points to hound the Shamrock Park side. Them came Coleraine, with games in hand but running into a depressing period of inconsistency. Linfield, so brilliantly revived by Scot Billy Sinclair, produced a breathtaking 13 games run without defeat—and included in that run was a win over Coleraine that put them into the Irish Cup final against old rivals Glentoran—and Ards, though not dependable enough, were doing their best to figure in the share-out.

All this has, of course, given the game a great end-of-term bonus. The fans are now convinced that they can see just as good football at their local ground as they watch on the television.

And, in passing, let me praise the efforts of two sides who provided me with the most entertaining game of the season. It happened in a County Antrim Shield game at the Oval where Glentoran beat Ballymena United . . . after a classic of great football, drama and enterprise I'll long remember.

The Shield provides for penalties if both sides are level after extra-time and this game was certainly level . . . 5-5 to be exact. In the end the Glens won 5-3 on penalties but their win came after the closest of contests and a bagful of well-worked goals. Thanks a million lads, I'll cherish the memory of your clash for a long, long time!!

EUROPE

ITALY

by PHILIP EVANS

FOUR GOALS FOR RIVA

YOU don't dance in the streets after defeating Luxembourg 5-0 at home, but the Italians must have taken a fair amount of pleasure from that win, even if that reflects delight at Riva's four goals. So weighted down in Mexico, unable to play adequately with Boninsegna; then the broken leg and the slow recovery; finally the crisis within Cagliari and the blunk despair that now makes him talk of leaving for Milan or Juventus at the end of the season (this despite the fact that Inter have a clear option on his services). Luck has passed him by so often recently, and one can only hope that self-confidence will soon come flooding back.

More important, in a sense, was the fine way in which Rivera and Benetti controlled the midfield; and the promising debut of Pulici, the young Torino striker. Technically less exquisite than Anastasi, psychologically more controllable than Chinaglia, he may prove to be what Gori used to be to Riva in Cagliari's golden season a couple of years ago—the perfect foil and shield-bearer. The summer season friendlies against Brazil and England will sort that one out; and Italy will then be left to do what they have always had to do—thrash Switzerland in their final game in the group come the late autumn.

Dissensions

Much more important than the banal result from Genoa was the news that Inter had dismissed Invernizzi from the post of team coach. The final nail in his coffin was a fearful 4-0 drubbing at the hands of Sala, Pulici and Torino; a game in which the internal dissensions were embarrassingly plain for all to see. The previous week Inter lost the second derby by two goals to none, the first time for twenty-five years that they have failed to take at least one point from their rivals.

You accept a challenge, and you accept the responsibility, of course. But from the start Invernizzi's position was circumscribed by the egoism of his players. Corso is a natural *regista*, a born midfield general; Mazzola is rather a player of the very highest talent in almost any position, without ever suggesting that he has the vision to conduct affairs. As Corso has fallen ill and lost form, so the rivalry between the two (always latent at the best of times, one that might lay dormant but never died) erupted anew.

Corso seems bound for Genoa (at present well clear at the top of the *Serie B*) and it may be that Boninsegna—another whose modesty quotient has never been high—will wend his way away from San Siro. The summer will tell, but there may yet be a palace revolution of enormous proportions, and Invernizzi has every right to feel that, for all his talent and courage, he found himself dropped into the eye of a whirlwind. One only hopes that he soon finds re-employment, and not with some clutch of buffoons in the lowest divisions.

Milan march on, scoring goals and making friends at every turn. The win over Inter was followed by a 3-1 thrashing of Helenio Herrera's gloomy, glum and grumpy Roma side. There's another manager who will have to get used to new surroundings next season. But deities have always been hard to bring down, and Herrera will never have to join a dole queue.

Remarkable

Juventus stay within striking (if that's the *mot juste*) distance along with Lazio, and have an easier programme than either the Roman or the Milanese team. That remarkable draw against Ujpest (when, for heaven's sake did an Italian team come back from being two goals down so quickly and with such courage) fired them to travel to Cagliari and take two difficult points.

Altafini scored the one goal, remarkable creature that he is—nearly 35 years old, still galvanically quick over the first few yards, still with majesterial technique in tight situations. I write on the eve of the first game against Derby and in genuinely schizophrenic frame of mind; but Altafini is capable of winning games by himself, and very capable of cracking Ajax's golden shell should the opportunity present itself.

Destination

Milan and Lazio have yet to meet for the second time, a game that could effectively decide the destination of the championship. Whether they triumph or not, Lazio will deserve enormous thanks from many for having been the pleasantest of surprises this season—their play fast and clever, ruined only on occasion by loutish defending and clumsy attacking.

Fiorentina put three goals past Cagliari (one from the precocious Antognoni), then lost by two goals to Bologna. Like the latter, like Torino and Cagliari and Napoli, they have lost games they should have won by a fair margin, have lacked steel and agression at key moments. All suffer too easily from the defeatism that pervades all but too small a clutch of Italian clubs when things go wrong.

Roma have sunk to the bowels of the table, a bare two points clear of the relegation zone, and seemingly unable to drag themselves clear. Ternana and Palermo seem likely to return whence they came last summer, which makes sense of pre-season prognostication without deserving too many prizes.

Talentless

Verona, Sampdoria, Atalanta and Vicenza are the others with their backs to the wall, each with one or two class players, two or three talentless frauds and five or six mediocrities—clubs that are and have always been rubbish dumps for fading stars and uneasy ladders for young players of some talent.

All of which is to say that bar the (very) odd surprise, the league table looks much as it did this time last, or any other, year.

STOP PRESS

. . . Helenio Herrera has been sacked by Roma following a run of defeats in the Italian League and a draw against bottom-of-the table Ternana.

EUROPE

Gorianski takes over

RUSSIA

FOR many years now control of the Soviet Union's national team has changed hands almost annually. It isn't clear whether the outgoing manager is forced to resign or gives up in despair, but whatever the reason Alexander Ponomarev, appointed just a year ago has given way to Jevgueni Gorianski.

In his playing days Gorianski was a forward with Lokomotive Moscow and last season was the manager of Zenith Leningrad. Gorianski was also in charge of the Olympics team and was previously in charge of Karpaty Lvov and Dynamo Kiev.

Though managers come and go the second in command for several years Alexei Paramanov remains as assistant manager.

Though the Soviet authorities have always maintained rigid transfer regulations and recently tightened them still further there appears to be no control over the movements of managers and coaches. The only restriction in this respect is an insistence that managers are not sacked before their contract expires without specific approval from the FA.

For the new season there has been a wholesale re-shuffle involving many of the best known managers. Gavril Katchalin, in charge of the Mexican World Cup squad, has quit Dynamo Tbilissi to take over Dynamo Moscow while Nikita Simonian, perhaps Russia's best post-war centre forward, has left Moscow Spartak after several seasons in charge. He takes over Ararat Jerevar.

The leading role in the new championship is again expected to be taken by clubs from the Ukraine who have in recent years broken the domination of the powerful Moscow clubs. Zarja Voroschilovgrad and Dynamo Kiev (first and second last season) should continue to do well along with neighbours Dnepr (Dniepropetrovsk) newly promoted last season.

They are joined for the new campaign by another Ukraine club Schaktor Donezk back in the top flight after being relegated for one year. Their manager is Oleg Basilevic the former Dynamo Kiev international right winger.

VITAL GOAL FOR KREISCHE

EAST GERMANY

THE national side wintered in South America, meeting club teams and playing two full internationals against Colombia (2-0) and Ecuador (1-1). Hans-Jurgen Kreische scored the vital equalising goal in Bogota where 32 years old Peter Ducke earned his 50th cap. The only match lost was against the Millonarios CF in Columbia.

The DFV Pokal Finale on May 1—usually in Leipzig—will be between 1972 champions 1st FC Magdeburg and 1st FC Lokomotive Leipzig. In the semi finals the favourites Magdeburg beat bottom of the table Rot Weiss Erfurt 1-0 away and 2-0 at home with the promising 20-year-old Jurgen Pommerenke scoring one of his rare goals.

The Leipzig club are having an up and down season; the highest scorers in the First Division thanks to Frenzel, Lowe and Matoul but also giving goals away freely. In the quarter finals they surprisingly eliminated the league leaders Dynamo Dresden and then accounted for the Berlin Dynamo club 2-1 away (Lowe and Frenzel) and 1-1 at home.

Although failing at home to Liverpool in the UEFA Cup, Dynamo Dresden storm on at the top of the table still unbeaten in league matches. Without Kreische away to Chemie Halle they trailed 1-2 until in the last minute Halle 'keeper Brader knocked one into his own goal to save a point.

On the same day Lokomotive Leipzig did the leaders a big favour by beating their only serious challengers FC Carl Zeiss Jena by 2-0.

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Dynamo turn

YUGOSLAVIA

AFTER being anchored to the bottom of the table for many weeks, the once powerful Dynamo Zagreb appear to have turned the corner. Though they have picked up only one point in the last three matches—all against championship contenders—they still have three clubs underneath them. Even more convincing, more than 25,000, their biggest crowd of the season, watched them at home to Velez. Then in a Mitropa Cup match they beat Bologna 3-1.

At the top of the table three Belgrade clubs, Red Star, Partizan and OFK jockey for position with Velez Mostar. OFK Beograd improved their chances by picking up five points out of six, including a 1-0 win over neighbours and rivals Partizan.

Their goalscorer in chief, Slobodan Santrac, has now hit a total of 159 goals in

Slobodan Santrac of OFK Belgrade scored all four goals against Dynamo Zagreb and broke league record with 160 goals in eight seasons.

Zagreb corner

league matches, equal to the best ever total.

Velez Mostar, the surprise team of the season with their very promising forwards Bajevic and Vladic appear to have lost their touch. League leaders a month ago they were held at home to a 1-1 draw by Red Star, drew again at Zagreb by the same score and then crashed to a 0-2 defeat away to much improved Zeljeznicar.

Though this was only their second defeat in the league, Bajevic will have to rJeover his goal touch if they are to pull off a major surprise and take the title away from the established giants.

After the critical test at Mostar, Red Star beat Zeljeznicar 3-0 with two goals from centre forward Lazarevic but took a nasty blow when their key motivator Dragan Dzajic broke his left leg during a training match. Without him they looked uncertain away to lowly Spartak Subotica and won 1-0 thanks to a penalty goal by Lazarevic.

WAKER MOVE TO THE TOP

AUSTRIA

REIGNING champions Swarowski Waker Innsbruck appear to have struck a better balanced blend since the resumption. With two straight wins, 2-1 against FK Austrai and 1-0 away to much improved VOEST Linz, they moved into top place for the first time this season—on goal average above Rapid.

Wacker's Technical Director last season, Edi Fruhwirth, one time manager of the national side was killed in a motorway crash recently.

Home point

Leaders at the break were Linzer ASK with former Rapid and Bayern Munchen star Gustl Starek their key man. They've slipped badly in recent games, dropping a home point to bottom of the table Vorwarts Bregenz and losing at Klagenfurt (0-1) to a goal scored by former West German cap Lothar Emmerich.

He tops the scorers at the moment with 14 goals and could complete a treble after being top scorer in West Germany and Belgium.

SC Rapid are happier than for some time, occupying second place in the league and scoring goals freely. In the Cup, which they hold, they beat First Vienna 5-2 and 3-0 and followed that with a 5-2 win in a league match against Eisenstadt.

They also drew 23,000, the biggest crowd of the season for their Viennese derby with FK Austria and salvaged a point, drawing 2-2 after being 2-0 down. However their promising young forward Geza Gallos is attracting a great deal of attention from Budesliga clubs and seems sure to be playing in Germany next season.

With Rapid and Admira up amongst the leaders, FK Austria officials are still dissatisfied with their showing. In 11th place there is little danger of relegation—but no glory either. Less than a year ago they engaged a new manager, the club's former international stopper Karl Stotz. Now they have persuaded the former Benfica boss Bela Guttmann out of retirement to take over at 73.

EUROPE

News from France by Andre Duclos

Boulogne under fire again . . .

MAY will bring the moment of truth; or two of them, if that is possible. The French international team will encounter in the World Cup, within the space of a week, the Irish at home and the Russians away. Russia were beaten 1-0 in Paris, Eire beat France in Dublin, Russia won there. Thus the Russians must be the favourites; not least because the French international team lost 1-2 in Paris to Eusebio and his Portuguese.

The battle of whether Georges Boulogne is the right man for the team manager's job goes on, just as the battle over Sir Alf Ramsey goes on in England. Detractors of Boulogne among professional players tend to raise the criticism that he was never himself a player of any consequence. He did not even go so far as Ramsey's predecessor Walter Winterbottom, who at least played some First Division football for Manchester United.

All this may be true, but it may not be important. Have France under Boulogne really done so badly, given their resources and the nature of the French Championship? Boulogne is not the only one, after all, to complain of lack of dedication, lack of hard training and application, among the French professional clubs. Marseille's German coach, Linder, has, as we know, been thoroughly put out by the attitudes he found even at the club which so recently did the double. And one general reflection on the France v. Portugal game at a packed Parc des Princes (half full it is true of Portuguese supporters) is that Eusebio's team played at a pace so much faster than French footballers are used to.

Poor performance

The position, however, is not hopeless, and it would be foolish to place too much emphasis on the single result of a friendly match, which in any case was still at 1-1 until the closing minute, when Eusebio popped up with his second goal. If French football is so bad, then how did Russia get beaten 1-0 at that same Park des Princes?

Nor can Marius Tresor, the Gaudeloupean generally regarded as the best French defender, if not all-round player, of the moment, possibly play so badly again. As those of you who watched him represent the Six against the Three at Wembley last January will know, this is a player of great style and address.

Tresor was so upset by his poor performance that after lying prostrate in the dressing-room for some time, he contrived to get himself lost in the *couloirs* and catacombs of the new Parc and to miss the banquet; but was not apparently an act of pique.

Terribly unadventurous

The feeling now is that Serge Chiesa should return as an outside-right, and George Lech, who did very well indeed against the Portuguese, should play in his favoured role of second centre-forward. If Chiesa plays he would no doubt as people hope add balance to the attack; but would he be prepared to make the trip to Moscow? It seems deeply unlikely, given that he found even Dublin too far to go. And in such circumstances, would it be right or fair for Boulogne to pick him at all?

Another much remarked on deficiency of the French team against Portugal, which will have to be put right for the Irish and Russian games, was the stasis of the full-backs, Broissart and Rostagni. Each was terribly unadventurous, and the fact that Georges Lech though nominally outside-right in fact played a deep, midfield game meant that France were virtually without an outside-right of any kind, whatever the number on his back.

By sharp contrast, the Portuguese backs overlapped with a will, and indeed their first goal came when one of them, Adolfo, was brought down in the box by the unhappy Broissart, provoking the penalty from which Eusebio scored.

The cup has provided plenty of high excitement; highest of all, perhaps, being Second Division Lille's extraordinary (though unavailing) 1-0 win over the holders, Olympique Marseille—at Marseilles. The goal came from Nogues in the 18th minute, and the disillusionment of the Marseilles fans, so often 30,000 strong, may be gauged from the fact that only half that number bothered to turn up.

It was a great day for South Americans. Nogues, in fact, is an Argentinian who played for his country in the Cannes junior tournament of 1971; he roasted poor Tresor before running on to score from a narrow angle. Prieto, a Chilean, marked Salif Keita out of the game—Josip Skoblar didn't play—Mugica was an uncompromising centre-half, while Alberto Fouilloux, Prieto's fellow Chilean, was the chief orchestrator. The astonishing thing was that Lille had lost the week before to the bottom team in their section of the Second Division. Marseilles then won 2-0 at Lille.

Much trouble between Strasbourg and Reinhard Libuda, former West German World Cup outside-right. It will be recalled that Libuda has been found guilty, along with other former Schalke 04 players, of selling a game against Arminia Bielefeld and suspended for life by the German Federation. On the alleged basis of this, Strasbourg have parted company with him and refused to make any more payments to him.

Abrogating his contract

Schalke for their part will not return a pfennig of the 500,000 deutschmark fee they received, while Libuda insists that there are no grounds for abrogating his contract. The ex-Strasbourg president, Wenger, who dismissed Libuda as an attacker who wasn't worth even the railway fare to Strasbourg, may feel in some sense justified. Certainly his performances for Strasbourg have tended to be pale, and one has seen little of the "German Matthews" who so often danced past international full-backs.

The extraordinary amateur team Guingamp, who have been the sensation of the cup as they fought their way from total obscurity to the last 16, crashed at last when Rouen overwhelmed them 5-0 on their own ground. The local population is a mere 10,000, but no fewer than 19,000 tickets were sold! A. S. Brest and Nigel Page-Jones were among the victims of this extraordinary team, but Rouen, managed by the former Austrian international right-winger Ernst Melchior (remember the fine goal he scored at Wembley against England in 1951?) were far too strong, alas: even if they won the return, at Rouen, "only" 3-0.

EUROPE

Prestige restored with clear-cut win

West Germany

by ARTHUR ROTMIL

WITH a clear cut 3-0 victory over Czechoslovakia, the German national side restored its prestige which was badly dented following that unhappy home defeat by Argentina in February. That the fans regarded that set-back as just a temporary lapse was evident from the capacity crowd of over 70,000 which filled the splendid Rhein-stadion in Düsseldorf. They saw a German team without the indisposed Netzer, Wimmer, Höttges and Grabowski, and minus goalkeeper Sepp Maier who was rested for this match.

The fact that Franke was given his first cap had nothing to do with Maier's disappointing form, notably for Bayern in Amsterdam. It was arranged a long time ago that other goalkeepers should be tried out in view of the necessity to have adequate replacements for next year's World Cup finals. Bernd Franke 25, from Eintracht Brunswick did well, though he was not extended and so the main interest centred on the performance of the midfield axis.

Here, Flohe and Overath, both from Cologne, operated instead of the Gladbach pair Wimmer—Netzer and acquitted themselves extremely well. They were supported by Uli Hoeness, who was replaced at half time by Cologne's rising star Bernhard Cullmann, 23, rated by many as the finest *libero*, next to Beckenbauer. The Germans are indeed fortunate to have such high class men in this department in midfield.

Schemes

And after the match manager Helmut Schön reaffirmed his intention of trying out those two brilliant schemers Netzer and Overath together! The whole side moved confidently against the Czechs who were forced to defend for long spells, but also lacked punch up front. Müller in the 26th minute and from a penalty in the 68th, plus Erwin Kremers (86 min.) scored the goals.

In the *Bundesliga* championship there now remains only the prospect of an exciting fight to avoid relegation. The title is as good as retained by Bayern Munich, who despite their disappointment in the European Cup simply sailed away from the rest of the field and now appear virtually out of reach.

Bayern splendidly survived their great test during the visit to the vastly improved Borussia Mönchen-Gladbach. There, the Bökelberg stadium, recently enlarged, was sold out for the first time with 34,500 inside. They saw a fine game which Bayern controlled more easily than even their most ardent followers dared to anticipate and romped home to a 3-0 triumph. Bayern recovered remarkably well from that traumatic 0-4 hammering by Ajax Amsterdam in the Champions Cup.

West German goalkeeper Sepp Maier . . . missed the international against Czechoslovakia.

In that game their national 'keeper Sepp Maier, who had one of his rare off-days, took the brunt of after-match criticism. In addition, the club management may have taken too much of a chance by fielding Gerd Müller who had sustained a fracture of the fibula and in the opinion of some medical experts should not have played at all. But the club chiefs took the view that even a half fit Müller would represent a psychological threat, but their gamble had failed.

Still the German champions held a 0-0 score line till the 53rd minute, before the Dutch storm broke over their heads. The 2-1 win in the return leg was a token consolation, but at least the Bavarians have made a handsome profit out of the tie. The club raised the capacity of the Olympic stadium in Munich by a further 2,000 and thus enjoyed a sell-out 77,000 gate! Bayern can also be proud of their strength at home, for they have not been beaten on their own ground for over three years, since losing to VfB Stuttgart by 1-2, on March 28, 1970!

A sad exit from the Cup Winners Cup was experienced by Schalke who slumped to a 2-4 aggregate defeat against the surprisingly strong Czech team Sparta Prague. A real body blow, just before the squad departed for Prague, has clearly contributed to their overall disappointing display.

World Cup (1970) defender Klaus Fichtel, midfield schemer Herbert Lütkebohmert and stopper Rolf Rüssmann, were all found guilty of receiving 2,300 D.Marks (just over £300) for "throwing" the match v. Arminia Bielefeld, which Schalke lost 0-1 on April 17, 1971. These three players, together with Hans-Jürgen Wittkamp (now with Bor.Mönchen-Gladbach) have been banned for two years and fined exactly that amount which they were adjudged to have collected.

Sentences

The three Schalke men were given special permission to play in the return leg with Sparta Prague, not least because the club, who had ordered only a limited number of visas, might have been unable to field a full team! But their sentences started immediately upon return from Czechoslovakia.

The verdict was greeted with stupefaction all over the country, especially as some Eintracht Brunswick players, also charged with receiving bribes, had been given only suspended sentences. But in their case the DFB was quick to point out, that whilst Schalke's men took money to lose, Brunswick's had merely accepted a winning bonus!

Thus only Borussia Mönchen-Gladbach were left to carry the German flag in European competitions. And they had to eliminate two other German clubs—Cologne and Kaiserslautern—in order to reach the semi-finals of the UEFA Cup!

After an absence of exactly two months, through badly torn muscles, their captain and midfield general Gunter Netzer was able to return, but was being groomed very gently for the tasks ahead. Borussia are now trying for this rare Cup "treble": UEFA Cup, League Cup and the DFB Cup!

EUROPE

FIVE PLAYERS BANNED AFTER RIOT

GREECE

AFTER the dust settled over the Olympiakos–Panathinaikos riot it left Ferenc Puskas' team in serious trouble. Five of their players were suspended from periods ranging from one match to a year and they had to forfeit the following two league games by a 2-0 score. This ended any chance they had of the title. Olympiakos had two players suspended, one for two matches, another for four months.

The game had been abandoned near the end by referee Lastios when fighting broke out. It seemed that Vassilios Konstantinou, the Panathinaikos goalkeeper, had been dismissed but it was simply his intervention which ended the proceedings. For his trouble he was given a year's ban. In the game itself, Papadimitriou and Athanassopoulos were sent off from Panathinaikos and Triantafilos from Olympiakos.

Authorities

Olympiakos were leading 3-2 at the time of the abandonment but the authorities decided to award the game to the winners a by a 2-0 forfeit score, thus depriving Panathinaikos of the point they would have got for completing the match.

Olympiakos and PAOK Salonika are now fighting out the top position with the odds veering towards PAOK again, particularly as Olympiakos have players injured and suspended.

The tragedy of the Panathinaikos–Olympiakos clash was that 45,000 people attended the game and it was covered by the TV cameras as well. Scarcely an advert for the image of Greek football.

Benfica held by FC Porto

PORTUGAL

BENFICA'S bid to go through their League programme without dropping a point ended at Porto in their 24th match when they were held to a 2-2 draw. Eusebio took his total of League goals this term to 29, and can still finish as Europe's ace marksman.

He also salvaged a point for Portugal in the World Cup qualifying match at Coventry against Northern Ireland. In an uninspiring performance by the national team and a particularly disappointing one from Eusebio, he managed to get the vital point from a late penalty. But Portugal must now hope that Bulgaria at least drop one point when they play the Irish.

National team manager Jose Augusto had to leave out centre-half Humberto, who was injured in Paris, and called up the Sporting Lisbon centre-back Alhinho in his place. But the attack proved the biggest disappointment.

Vitoria Setubal went out of the UEFA Cup against Spurs, but only on the away goals rule and were actually leading 2-0 after 65 minutes. But a free-kick by Spurs' Martin Chivers went over the ducking head of Octavio in the Setubal wall and the gave the visitors a narrow away-goals rule lead.

The weekend before, Jose Torres, who scored the second Setubal goal in this match, had hit six of his side's eight in a Cup game against Maritimo Funcial.

Benfica also had an impressive win at Belenenses by 4-2, even though they were without Eusebio and Humberto (injured). And with Toni having been switched from midfield leading the attack they did not look any less impressive.

Porto were concerned in two unusual games. Their cup-tie with Boavista was won 2-1 and all three goals came from penalties — international midfield player Pavao getting both for Porto.

In the League they drew 1-1 at Guimaraes and had their Argentinian striker Heredia making his League debut sent off along with local player Carlos.

BRUGES' TITLE

BELGIUM

UNLESS Bruges repeat last year's performance of collapsing in their last few games, they are assured of the title. With four matches to go they have 40 points, which is six more than Standard Liege.

Both Standard and Racing White, the nearest rivals to Bruges, have been conveniently dropping points. At Diest, who are second from the bottom, Standard could only draw 2-2, and the same week Racing White were beaten 2-1 at Berchem. Anderlecht who have fallen away badly lost 1-0 at Malines and Bruges took full advantage by winning 1-0 at FC Liege albeit by a curious goal.

International referee Loraux awarded an indirect free-kick and Bruges' Dutch striker Ruud Geels blasted the ball towards goal and instinctively Curcic in the Liege goal tried to save—but only touched it into the net!

Standard drew 0-0 with Anderlecht to virtually end their faint hopes. Anderlecht hope to sign Antwerp trainer Urbain Braems as their coach next season.

National team boss Raymond Goethals has had his contract extended to 1978 and other names in the news include former international stars like Hanon, Claessen and Stassart. All three have been in trouble for various breaches of club discipline—the first two for what they have said about their clubs: Pierre Hanon with Cercle Bruges and Andre Stassart with Second Division Sporting Charleroi. Roger Claessen has been jailed following a fracas in Liege.

Racing White might still combine with Daring for next season and could lose two of their stars, Danish-born skipper Bjerre and Henri Depireux.

The draw for the semi-finals of the Cup on May 13 have paired Racing White with Standard and Lierse with Anderlecht.

No further decision has been taken over the proposed professional league but it seems that the promoters are not going to take "no" for an answer—at least at this stage.

DERMENDIEV COMES BACK

BULGARIA

THE international career of Dinko Dermendiev seemed to be over in the autumn when along with the top league scorer Petar Jekov he was axed from the national squad by new manager Christo Mladenov.

Then, during the winter break, he scored goals on the Far East tour with the B squad and after shining in a trial game he regained his place against the Soviet Union.

Though the Bulgarians were on top for most of the game they failed to score until in the second half Dermendiev stepped up with a solo effort to beat two men and score the only goal from 20 yards. This was Bulgaria's first-ever success against Russia.

Leaders

In the championship race Lokomotive Plovdiv, leaders at the break have fallen further behind. After three goal-less games they finally scored away to Spartak Pleven but lost 2-1.

This defeat put them six points behind the leaders and virtually out of the race behind three Sofia clubs. Christo Bonev has been the leading light in Lokomotive's good run in the autumn and in their last match it was he who scored the vital goal in a 1-0 home win over Beroe — his 14th of the season, playing in midfield.

After a somewhat hesitant beginning the established masters, the Army Club CSKA Sofia have finally got into top gear. With Jekov scoring goals again, topping the list with 16, they beat Spartak Varna 4-1 and then won the big Sofia derby 2-1 against Levski.

Threat

The other Sofia club, Slavia, whom CSKA met in last season's Cup Final, appear to be their biggest threat. They earned a good point (2-2) away to Beroe and then beat Dounav 4-1 but still trail four points behind.

In the FA Cup the stranglehold of the Sofia club lingers. At the quarter-final stage Levski beat Cernomorezt 2-1 while neighbours Akademik beat Trakia Plovdiv by the same score.

The only provincial semi-finalists are Beroe who beat Dounav 3-1 but CSKA are still there too after beating Slavia 1-0.

Eugenij Jancovski of FC Beroe.

Trnava slump again

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

CHAMPIONS and league leaders Spartak Trnava slumped to their second defeat in the league race away to Dukla in Prague. The new midfield player Macela was the Dukla scorer but the real hero was Ivo Viktor in goal who had a fine match.

Without their young strikers Masrna and Horvath, Trnava appear to be struggling for goals for in their last match at home to Teplice they struggled to win 1-0 with a late goal from Fandel.

Slavia SK appear to be making a determined bid to get away from the threat of Division II. In consecutive games they earned a point away from home, drawing 2-2 at Pilzen before the biggest crowd of the day (11,000) and following that with a 1-1 draw against Lokomotive at Kosice.

Dukla, who are well up the table underlined Slavia's improvement the following week when they could only win 1-0 against Pilzen.

Favour

If Slavia go on gaining points away from home they can still survive, for in the Czech First Division the results so far heavily favour home sides. To date, nine of the 16 clubs are still without an away win while four more have managed to do so only once. Tatran Presov, Trnava's main challenger, are particularly vulnerable away.

In consecutive games they crashed 0-4 away to Zilina (3rd) in a league match and then went down 0-3 in the away leg of the Slovak Cup Final to VSS Kosice. National team manager Vaclav Jezek is probably regretting that he turned down an offer to take over VSS Kosice.

Problems

After four games, the recent 0-3 defeat against West Germany was his fourth defeat—the first time the Germans have beaten Czechoslovakia since 1936.

Though he has problems in all departments his biggest headache is to find a goalscorer. Almost in desperation he capped the Second Division's top scorer (14 goals), 26-year-old Jarkovsky of the Prague club Bohemians.

DRESSING ... A NEW

THE displeasing incidents over that disputed penalty in the Chelsea–Arsenal Cup replay, at Highbury, will not fade easily from the mind. Indeed, they start a number of hares. As one who was there that evening I felt the affair spoiled what till then had been a very good, if somewhat physical, match, and did nothing for the "image" of the game, or for the reputation of Mr. Norman Burtenshaw.

Whether or not it should have been a penalty seems to me, in the circumstances, almost secondary. For what it is worth, it looked from my position as if Steve Kember fouled George Armstrong on the very edge of the area, and that Armstrong fell just inside. This version concurred with that offered by Chelsea's Johnny Hollins, whose view it was that Kamber had one foot inside the area, but fouled Armstrong with the foot outside it; the nicest of nice things!

It may well be argued that Chelsea do not deserve much sympathy, that the foul was a cynical one, after the excellent little Armstrong had well and truly beaten his man, and that whether or not it occurred in the penalty area does not alter the moral aspect of the situation. It is equally true, but hardly relevant, that early in the game Arsenal were deprived of a very handsome goal in most ironic circumstances, the game being brought back to the edge of their box for a free-kick in their own favour after Charlie George had cleverly scored.

Consult

My preoccupation is with what went on between Mr. Burtenshaw's awarding a free kick on the edge of the box and his changing his mind and giving, instead, a penalty. Having given a free kick, Mr. Burtenshaw at first seemed adamant; all Arsenal's protests were futile. In the meantime, Frank McLintock and a colleague were vehemently exhorting the relevant linesman, finally leaving him to make protest to Mr. Burtenshaw.

The referee, no longer a man of iron rigidity, was persuaded to go over to the linesman, to consult him and then, changing his decision, to trot into the area and give a penalty. From this Alan Ball scored, thus wholly changing the course of the game. Chelsea's tails went down — I don't think Arsenal's, in such a situation, would have done — and they were eventually defeated.

The after-taste was sour. If Mr. Burtenshaw was in any doubt about his decision in the first place — which he evidently must have been, despite his initial intransigence — then that was the time to consult his linesman. If he *was* sure, then why did he consult him at all? There seems to me no way round these questions. Moreover, the implications are perturbing. What's sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander.

If one home team — I repeat, home team — can successfully work on a linesman then on his referee, so can another. The precedent is distressing, and I for one felt disgusted by the whole, shabby affair. As we have seen, there were no moral monopolies, for if Kember hadn't fouled in the first place, there would have been no decision to discuss or dispute. Nevertheless, there seems a danger that our old friend the barrack-room

Alan Ball scores the penalty that gave Arsenal victory over Chelsea in the FA Cup.

ROOM LAWYER PHENOMENON?

lawyer is going to be superseded by a new phenomenon, the dressing-room lawyer.

No Roman football club has won the Italian Championship for over 30 years, when Roma brought it off for the first and only time, during the war. This season, as we know, the other, older, less fervently supported club, Lazio, has set a splendid pace, but the events of last March showed one of the chief reasons why Roman clubs never win anything of importance; the sheer, astonishing infantilism of the football scene there.

Just think about it. Roma and Lazio were about to play their second local derby match of the season in a packed Olympic Stadium when the President of Lazio, Signor Lenzini, went down to the dressings-room. There, outside the Lazio team's, he found several children cavorting, and at once, incensed, gave orders for them to be dispersed. Two of them, however, happened to be the twin sons of Lazio's successful and sympathetic manager, Maestrelli. The manager looked out of the dressing-room door and found his sons were gone. Perturbed, he asked what had happened and was told they had been sent away.

The controversial incident at Highbury during the FA Cup replay between Arsenal and Chelsea which caused such a furore. George Armstrong is brought down by Steve Kember . . . but was it a penalty?

Unauthorised

Angrily, he asked by whom. "By me!" Lenzini is said to have replied, "and if you don't look out, you'll go, too!"

Maestrelli went off, alarmed and infuriated, to find his sons. The game was eventually played, and Lazio won 2-0. Floods of type in the Roman newspapers. Lenzini defending himself; there had been a rebuke from the Italian League about unauthorised persons hanging around the dressing-room. Maestrelli was guilty of leaving his team; he, the President, would have done the same even if it had been his own sons, and so on, to the same effect.

By the Monday evening, however, he was whistling another, more conciliatory tune; the more so as Maestrelli had announced he didn't care a button if he left Lazio (his contract for the coming season had still to be agreed). It was all a misunderstanding in the heat of the moment, Lenzini insisted. He hoped to put things right with Maestrelli when they met in the club offices. To this Maestrelli darkly rejoined that it was not the sort of matter which could simply be put right over a drink.

Scarcely had the heat begun to go out of this almost literally childish imbroglio than a larger bomb exploded. *Momento Sera*, a Roman evening newspaper, announced that the Lazio General Manager, Antonio Sbardella, had agreed to join Roma next season. He had had a meal with Roma's President, "Gay" Anzalona, over which the deed had been done.

Guarantee

More uproar, accusation and denial. When the smoke cleared, Sbardella, a former international referee, had a fat new contract with Lazio till 1975 and a guarantee that he would get a freer hand, while both he and Anzalone denied that anything concrete had been decided.

In the meanwhile, there has been the recurring motif of Giorgio Chinaglia, the big, international centre-forward, now spitefully criticised for his alleged romantic life — and in a paper as respected as *La Stampa* — now himself criticising publicly the team players, and saying it has resulted in his losing his place in the national side (for this Lazio fined him heavily). Fortunately, as Chinaglia has observed, the rows tend to take place during the week, while the matches are still won on the Sunday. The Lenzini - Maestrelli contretemps, however, took place dangerously close to kick-off time.

Disappointing

It seems now to be the fashion to put on plays about footballs and footballers, both on television and on the stage. That these tend to be disappointing is not only thanks to the fact that those who write them — I am thinking in particular about a wretchedly unimpressive London Weekend play called *Achilles Heel* — know little about the professional game and its strange, closed world. (The author, God help us, talked about his "research"; something surely for journalism, rather than supposedly creative writing.)

A larger problem is that a football play without football is *Hamlet* without the Prince; and I have not forgotten David Storey's *The Changing Room*. Footballer become interesting essentially in their relation to football; the most important thing in their lives. If you can neither show the game nor, in the case of the ITV play, understand it, what can you hope to achieve?

EUROPE

HUNGARY

by LESLIE VERNON

Curse strikes again as Dozsa are defeated

THE "two-nil" curse has struck again, and the Hungarian interest in the international club competitions is over. Dozsa went ahead against Juventus with an opportunist Bene goal shortly after the kick-off, and a stunning Toth shot in the 14th minute, and a place in the European Cup semi-finals seemed assured.

Then, for some undetectable reason, the players became over-anxious, and the Altafini-Anastasi duo capitalised on the errors of a dithering defence.

After the game, Bene bitterly blamed the relative inexperience of the back-four for the elimination, but this was a mere over-simplification of a long-standing problem. The very same defence (Kolar, Harsanyi, Horvath, P. Juhasz) kept both Celtic in Budapest and Juventus in Turin at bay, so the entire team should be held responsible for the nervous breakdown.

Unhappily, this "easing-off" goes back to '54, when the national team led W. Germany 2-0 in the World Cup Final. There is no need to repeat the outcome of that particular disaster, but it is worth recalling that Hungary led 3-1 at Prague in the 1970 World Cup (final score 3-3), and even more recently, 2-0 in Vienna, where the Austrians equalised in the second half.

Televised

I heard the Dozsa result in the TV commentators' box in Derby minutes before the kick-off. The Hungarians showed the Derby v. Trnava game live immedately after the public had two hours televised football from the Dozsa stadium.

Of course, interest-wise, the Dozsa result "killed" the Derby tie, and Janos Szonyi, the commentator, repeatedly said to me that only a Hungarian team could squander a two-goal lead. Perhaps this is a slight exaggeration, but there is certainly a case for a thorough post mortem. Is this failing to hold an advantage due to psychological or physical reasons?

They had better find the answers before April 29, when the vital World Cup game will be played against Austria at the Nepstadium. Dozsa's defeat makes Illovszky's job a bit easier, because the lilac-and-whites won't now be involved in a hard European tie four days before the international.

The team manager spied on Austria when they played Holland in Vienna (1-0) and was highly impressed: "This was an excellent match, both teams played hard, modern football. The Austrians have a better side now than they have had for years. I learned a great deal here today and am still optimistic."

Stastny's foreign legion (Shilcher, Hasil, Schmidradner, Hickelsberger) played extremely well — these players have clearly benefited from regularly appearing in the *Bundesliga* and the tough Dutch league. Hattenberger and Starek were also outstanding, only the middle of the defence looked vulnerable.

Illovszky, quite rightly, based his selection on Ujpest Dozsa—no less than six of their players are in this squad: Geczi, Rapp, Fabian, Kovacs, Pancsics, Balint, P. Juhasz, I. Juhasz, Toth, Szucs, Kocsis, Fazekas, Bene, A. Dunai, Zambo, Varadi. Including Anti Dunai was merely a gesture of loyalty, because the Dozsa striker hasn't played since the first Juventus match, and is unlikely to be risked in such an important fixture.

At present, it seems that the versatile Pancsics will be utilised at right full-back, Balint will play sweeper, Istvan Juhasz and Toth at midfield, and the two wingers Fazekas and Zambo, will be detailed to fall back, if necessary, in this flexible 4-2-4 formation. Hungary must go for a win in this match. In case of a draw, Austria need only one point in Stockholm to qualify.

It was just like "old-times" in the Nepstadium, when 55,000 people paid to see a league "double-header" which involved the four most popular clubs of the capital. They got good value for money and 13 goals were scored. Laszlo Nagy, "reserve" striker of Dozsa, got a hat-trick against MTK in the "hors-d'oeuvres" part of the entertainment, and the champions ran out 4-1 winners.

Bene . . . in the news.

Dozsa are still much the best side in Hungary, and their place on top of the table is quite safe. MTK, for so long unbeaten last autumn, are going through a bad patch and have dropped back near the edge of the relegation zone. The Ferencvaros v Honved "main dish" was a magnificent game as the 4-4 score-line suggests.

"Fradi" went 3-0 ahead with goals by Juhasz and Mucha (2), but the young debutant winger, Morgos, got one back for the Army-team before the break. Kozma equalised with goals in the 46th and 60th minutes, but Albert made it 4-3 by keeping his cool in a goalmouth scramble.

In the very last minute, Pintet of Honved beat Geczi from 15 metres, and one of the most entertaining matches ended all-square.

Attendances are also booming in the provincial centres, especially the newly promoted duo, Zalaegerszeg and Szeged, are getting good support.

In the second Division, Haladas are leading the pack, and a quick return to the First seems assured. However, there is a real dog-fight for the second promotion spot, and it is any one from eight at the moment.

Dr. Janos Dunai, elder brother of the Dozsa forward, has taken over the helm at Pecs, his old club, and will need all his experience to save them from relegation.

JOZEF VENGLOS

. . . manager of the Czechoslovakian Under 23 team writes this month

LOOKING after an Under 23 team presents special problems for few, if any, of the players at this level have any previous international experience. It's impossible for one thing to have any continuity in developing the team for it must inevitably change completely over a period of two years. Yet developing players for the full national side is very rewarding.

I realise that England must have their own very good reasons for not participating in the European Championship at Under 23 level. But in my opinion they are making a mistake. One of the most important factors in the development of a players is experience and I know from observation of the Czech players how much they benefited from regular, competitive contact with the game in other countries.

Own style

Every player that took part must have learned something and improved as a result of his participation. Each country has its own style of play and the players have different qualities and present different problems. Exposed to varying styles and skills, young players can only benefit from foreign contacts and experience in other countries.

In general, players reach their best form at around 27 and international experience plays a big part in their development. With most foreign contact and greater exposure at international level many players could well reach maturity at 22 or 23.

Against England's Under 23 team at Birmingham recently we were beaten 1-0 and I am sure our players learned a lot. It was not quite the same team that won the European title last year — without Keketi, Masrna and Stovcik as well as the very experienced Sumek, of Dukla who is a fine captain. In retrospect I would say that we put up a good performance for none of our players had played in England before. They were told that the English are accustomed to more physical contact than we are and that they were quick and generally stronger. But words of advice before the game do not make the same impression as hard experience.

The English team was probably the strongest we have met in my time. They time their tackles better and have better physical condition. They are also better and more competitive in heading duels I think, but our players were technically superior — better in terms of individual skills and collective play. I am sure that all our players are wiser now and I have every hope we shall give a better account of ourselves in the return match in Bratislava.

England were comparable to the team of the Soviet Union who we met in the 1972 Under 23 final. At that time Jan Fabera and I were joint managers of the team though he is now FA Secretary. The Russians were the most attack conscious side we have met and in my view improving. In their team Blockhine, who has a tremendous shot was always dangerous and Nodija, a very experienced player were outstanding.

Development

Of course, it's always nice to win at this level, but the results are of secondary importance. The fans would not agree of course — they always want to win — but the prime purpose in running an Under 23 team is development. Sometimes the players learn more from losing and I am sure that being a goal or two behind can bring out the best in many players. Last season in our away games in Athens and Moscow we were losing but on each occasion we came back into the game to earn a draw. In Moscow the player's morale was particularly good and we scored an equalising goal with only four minutes left.

After our match in Birmingham I stayed behind in England to watch the training at Liverpool, Everton and West Ham and was very impressed. The organisation is excellent and the English score heavily in the training of young players.

In Europe the game is improved but perhaps the rate of progress is not fast enough. Too many people have the idea that "their" football is the best. This kind of thinking leads to complacency and can be very dangerous.

North Korea surprised everyone in 1966 and I am quite sure that in the next 10 or 15 years it will become very difficult to win games in places like Morocco. We can all learn from each other. In my experience the Brazilians have the greatest skill, the Hungarians are supreme at passing and the English display more determination in the two penalty areas. The ideal game is a blend of the best qualities from each country.

For the Czechs I think that some of players have life too easy. Today it is no longer enough to be talented and our players must be educated to recognise this. To reach the top in football requires a great deal of hard work and our top players like Adamec, Jokl and Dobias to name just a few must set an example to the youngsters. Ten years from now, many of our current stars will be coaches and they will benefit if they have helped develop greater dedication to the game.

Our past record proves that there is an aptitude for the game in Czechoslovakia and there is no shortage of facilities for the government provides all the necessary money. We also have universities for sport with special sections for football.

But there is no substitute for hard work and the biggest problem in Czechoslovakia is impatience. Club officials are impatient for results and the journalists seem to think that coaches can produce top players at will. Worst of all some of the players are impatient too.

'NUMBER 14—J

Footballer turn

THOUSANDS of Dutch soccer fans have been queueing up during recent weeks to see the first full-length feature film that has ever been made around the lonely figure of a soccer star. A real one, that is, not the product of an inventive scriptwriter. And not only soccer fans. A surprising number of people who normally would never undertake the trip to Amsterdam's grey Olympic Stadium or Ajax's cosy ground, now seem prepared to pay almost £2 for a glance at the genius of Johan Cruyff, at 26 regarded as the most talented player in today's game.

A look at the long queues outside Amsterdam's City Theatre, where the film "*Number 14—Johan Cruyff*" is shown, reveals some unlikely fans: elegantly dressed young men and women who would be better in place at the ballet and opera building not far away from the City Theatre in Amsterdam's most lively square kilometer around the Leidseplein.

The film, made by award-winning Dutch director Ruud van Buuren and Holland's leading soccer-writer Maarten de Vos, is a mixture of an intimate look at the life at the top of Johan Cruyff, his background in one of Amsterdam's poorer districts and many beautiful slow-motion shots of Cruyff in full action.

The ballet-like virtuosity of these slow-motion shots are in fact the highlights of the film. The only criticism here could be, that the romantic, angel-like music in the background is a bit of a cliche. The many interviews with Cruyff that Maarten de Vos had revealed little new about the Ajax star, his philosophy or about his approach to the game.

The figure of Cruyff has over the past few years been so much publicised, especially in Holland, that there is hardly any surprise left. Johan Cruyff appears as a dedicated, total professional. His sense of responsibility to Ajax and his colleagues in the side probably attribute as much to his soccer genius as his undoubted skills. His rather fragile frame makes him an unlikely forward in today's game, but much of that is compensated by his tremendous skill and his capability of avoiding hard tackles.

Inside Johan Cruyff's home, with his parents, during shooting of the film.

Balance

"I lead two completely different lives," Johan Cruyff said after seeing the film for the first time. "And I am glad that this film has found the right balance between the two. Privately I am a rather shy man and I like to sit at home with my wife and two children. But publicly I realise I have to live up to my reputation as a star, however hard I find that sometimes. The pressures are enormous, but I think I can cope." Maybe that is the secret to Cruyff's success story. He can cope.

After his first few years as the "enfant terrible" in the Ajax side, where he made his debut at 15, he soon settled down to an ordinary married life. Financial difficulties with Ajax were resolved through a long running contract, with guarantees for a £100,000 lump sum when he retires. These two stabilising factors—emotional and financial security—have undoubtedly contributed to the constant progress in Johan's soccer.

Architect

From the daring, almost arrogant hunter for goals, fame and glory he has slowly developed into an intelligent architect of the game. He reserves his undiminished goal-scoring abilities for special matches or for the rare occasion Ajax run into trouble. For the rest Johan Cruyff is satisfied to present the team around him with unbelievable through - balls, accurate passes, chances and encouragement.

"This film to me was quite revealing," he says. "I have of course seen TV and other films about me. But this time I am ex-

OHAN CRUYFF'
ed film-star

by MARIUS VAN RIJN

Johan Cruyff with the neighbour who used to "beat him up" when the kids played football on the streets.

posed naked. You can see me make terrible mistakes, apart from a few nice moves they have shot. Especially revealing is a five minute scene of me in continuous battle with Orialis of Inter Milan. That shows exactly what kind of opposition I can expect. It is a hard, brutal sequence of pushing, grabbing, pulling and even beating out of which I finally emerge with a good header.

"But from the stands the public probably think: come on, Johan, get yourself out of that mess." He has his frustrations. In the film he admits: "Frankly, I don't think I ever played a very good match. The few times I have been near it, Press and public probably did not notice".

"*Number* 14 — *Johan Cruyff*" was originally planned as a half-hour TV-film. By the time this concept was to be carried out things started happening to Ajax. Twice in succession the Amsterdam team conquered the European Cup, the highest Cup-glory of them all.

Full-length

The improvement of Ajax in general and of Cruyff in particular was such, that a full-length feature film seemed to do more justice to the subject. In a way this change of mind did not do the film a great deal of good. In some parts the original approach as a TV-film is still visible.

Technically the film is not too brilliant either. The original 16 millimetre film had to be blown up to the 35 millimetre used in the cinema which results in weaker colours and sharpness. But still, the film has enough appeal to people inside and outside soccer to guaruntee a successful run in the Dutch cinemas and later probably in British and other European theatres.

For Johan Cruyff—mysteriously absent when Ajax lost 2-1 to Bayern Munich, which, by the way, did not stop Ajax's steady progress to this year's European Cup Final—the film "*Number* 14 — *Johan Cruyff*" (that 14 is his favourite shirt number) is just another step on his way to a well-deserved carefree, future.

ERIC THORNTON reports from Manchester . . .

HART TAKES OVER AT CITY

JOHNNY Greatheart has been having another go, and all his friends are crossing their fingers and earnestly hoping for a change of luck for soccer's quiet fellow.

My wish is the same, because ever since the Hart family gave the go-ahead to a career in the ancient pastime, luck has been a strange bedfellow, usually missing when needed most.

Now, the distant horizon is promising something better, though totally unexpected, for this old friend of more than two decades—the managership of his beloved Manchester City Football Club.

That's a good number for anyone. But a tricky one. For it should be remembered that already no fewer than seven experienced men have filled that particular hot seat in the last quarter of a century.

I've known them well, and there can be no doubting the differing credentials of Wilfred Wild, Sam Cowan, Jock Thomson, Leslie McDowall, George Poyser, Joe Mercer and Malcolm Allison were good. Yet one after another they departed. Some of their own volition, others fleeing before the axe.

Historical

Hart needs no homework on that aspect. He is well acquainted with the historical side of the Maine Road organisation. Indeed, that's only to be expected of someone who has been on the pay roll these last twenty-six years—a good stretch of sporting life by any measurement.

During that period, the man from the coalfield town of Golborne, which first made the headlines when Peter Kane, of the Eddie Cantor eyes, won the British lightweight crown, has had the tremendous advantage of playing alongside some of Britain's brightest post-war stars.

I'm thinking especially of such as Frank Swift, Andy Black, Billy Walsh, Bert Sproston, Bill McAdams, Dennis Westcott, Ivor Broadis, Frank McCourt, Eddie McMorran, Roy Paul, Don Revie, Jimmy Meadows, and Roy Clarke—all internationals.

Experienced

Some were already with the club when he and his inseparable pal, Joe Hayes, the former Bolton millhand, arrived, and, strangely, experienced exactly opposite fortunes.

Bluff, tough Joe was the lad whose goals took the club to successive Cup Finals in the fifties, the second a winning one in 1956. Johnny was the one who sat them out.

He was a stonewall cert for the Wembley clash with Newcastle United until breaking a leg seven days before the semi-final with Sunderland, and requiring almost twelve months to recover. A lonely figure aloof from the battle.

A brilliant display marked his sudden, and unexpected return from the final League fixture of the following season at Portsmouth. Yet it didn't win him a Wembley spot seven days later—only another seat in the stand, bang between the twin towers.

That was again the unfortunate position in 1969, when, after training the team throughout most of the winter, he had to step down because of injury, and Dave Ewing kept the sponge job for the winning final against Leicester City, because the boys thought a late change might affect their luck.

Back he bounced again as club coach when Allison became the new C-in-C, and won the respect of new boys Francis Lee, Mike Summerbee, Rodney Marsh, and the rest, as they fought for one prize after another, and kept slipping.

Forecasts

Allison said they'd carry off that cup once more. And made plenty of other forecasts, too, while Johnny, who had seen it all, said nothing. At least, not for publication.

Everybody got ready for another parting. And were not disappointed. Because Allison packed his bags, moved to his native south, and took over Crystal Palace. Which left an intriguing vacancy giving birth to the usual think pieces of some writers with no informed background.

Restored

The board temporarily handed the team over to Johnny, who promptly made changes which restored two recognised stars in Francis Lee and Alan Oakes, and just as promptly was rewarded with the first win in ten games.

Did he bang the drum? Did he throw his chest out, take the stage, and promise staggering triumphs? Not on your life. He just said, ever so quietly: "Give all the credit to the lads, and not to me."

That's typical of the hoarse-voiced one-club man who could guide Manchester City to new successes in the future as manager of one of the greatest clubs in the game—Johnny Greatheart.

Mike Doyle of Manchester City with Ted MacDougall of West Ham United.

by ERIC BATTY

TOTAL FOOTBALL ...what is it?

FOR approximately a year now we've been subjected to references to "Total football" though I've been unable to discover which glib tongue actually produced the phrase. Neither do I understand what it means though it's a reasonable bet that whoever it was is one of the many well-known voices that constantly complain about the proliferation of new technical terms within the game.

Initially it was the play of Ajax that inspired the phrase and was intended as a compliment but like most of the superlatives the popular journalists never cease to struggle for, it has since been devalued.

Certainly there is an air of magic about the way Ajax play when at their best and there can be little doubt that they have been the outstanding club side in Europe during the last two or three years. But to suggest, as the word total implies, that Ajax are the ultimate in football is quite erroneous. For one thing they are suspect in goal and I also have reservations about the temperament of some of their key players.

Obstacles

However, it is not my intention to knock Ajax, who are producing a brand of football that I would like to see more widely copied. With their emphasis on skill—even amongst their back four—Ajax appear to have an absolute and utter faith in their ability to overcome all obstacles. It is this belief, allied to their skill that makes them such a formidable proposition. The skill they've had for some years though perhaps not with the same degree of sheen or the depth of reserve talent they have now.

It was in evidence when they were beaten 4-1 in the European Cup Final by AC Milan but the belief came later as the result of experience. They proved to themselves the hard way that skill will triumph in the end. To describe their play in its simplest possible terms: Ajax play *REAL* football.

Total football, applied to Ajax is misleading for attempting to understand its meaning I recalled the expression "total war". Today this implies the free use of hydrogen bombs, nerve gases and bacteriological weapons: no holds barred, win at any price.

This phrase would be more aptly used to describe the kind of football we have seen develop in England in recent years. Here we have seen the total physical commitment with its emphasis on work-rate and hatchet men, all of which unfortunately now appear to be prerequisites for success.

Stefan Kovacs, who masterminded so much of the success of Ajax Amsterdam.

Prominent English managers pay lip service to the creed in which Ajax have so much faith. They talk glibly of defenders "skilled" enough to play a role in attack, yet the bulk of these successful defenders survive not on their skill but their ability to sprint up and down for 90 minutes.

The big men at the back, accomplished winners of the ball in the air, are sent forward for set pieces, corner kicks and free kicks . . . and scurry back like rabbits in case anything is given away. Full backs chase up and down their flanks, joining with their colleagues in attack but invariably finishing their run with a high cross into the penalty area.

Everything in football resolves around belief and the truth is that far too few managers really believe their teams can be successful on skill alone.

It was not always so. In the days before football ceased to be a sport and became a business the majority of managers staked their faith in ability above all else. I remember Matt Busby being asked after the 1948 Cup Final what he had told his players at half-time when they were 2-1 down to Blackpool. His reply was illuminating. "Believe in yourselves and keep playing football. The goals will come."

Ajax and their manager Stefan Kovacs have this same utterly rooted belief in their skills and their ability to make it pay. In the recent clash with Bayern Munich they totally dominated the first half but had no goals to show for it. This was the critical test for Ajax. In similar circumstances I have seen many strong English teams go to pieces in European Cup matches.

Polished

Ajax, however, have reached a point in their development where they cannot play any other way and the belief goes deep. They play the ball around between them, probing for a way through but above all their skills are so polished that they seldom give the ball away.

When they were last in England for a European Cup match their opponents were Arsenal. At the time Arsenal's play was stereotyped and limited but certainly effective. Starting only one goal down they took the initiative early on but after giving a goal away they fell apart. All their method went and in desperation they began to hit long balls into the Ajax penalty area from all angles.

What Arsenal needed that night was one skilled and confident player to spark things off but no one emerged to lift them. This is where Ajax score because though all 11 players are not master craftsmen, their midfield trio are all highly skilled individuals who play the ball to feet.

This is where it all starts . . . in midfield. And it's all bound up in skill and belief. The sooner this is accepted and high sounding phrases like "total football" rejected, the better it will be.

Names make news . . . Names make news . . . Names

Remon—the best since Lev Yashin?

by NORMAN CUTLER

REAL Madrid's twenty-year-old goalkeeper, Garcia Remon, saved them from a heavy defeat against Dynamo Kiev in the European Cup quarter finals.

"He was better than Yashin at his best, some of his saves were miraculous, against any other keeper we would have scored six goals. His positioning and anticipation were tremendous and he covered his goals so well that there was just no place to shoot." That was the tribute from fifty-one-year-old Alexander Servidod, the Dynamo manager.

The biggest surprise of the game was that 50,000 spectators were present in a City miles from Kiev, and in a temperature five degrees below zero. It even shook the Russians.

With the score standing at 0-0 throughout the game, Santiago Bernabeu, who headed the Spanish party said; "I'm too old to suffer so much." (He always does suffer when Real are not ahead.)

Alexander Servidod was born in Moscow in 1921. He joined Dynamo Moscow in 1933 and stayed there until 1950 when a knee injury ended his active days. His first managerial post was with Dynamo Minsk, who he led for eight years. Later going to Maddob Kischenev, with Alma Ata and finally three years ago to Dynamo Kiev.

The young Madrid keeper, who stood between the Russian side and European Cup fame, was discovered in 1969 by Madrid amongst the 2,500 who get trials in each year. He played for Rayo, Madrid juveniles, was then ceded to Second Division Oviedo. His improvement was so marked that after Real recalled him to play against Red Star Belgrade in August he played so well they kept him and he was preferred to four experienced goalkeepers . . . Betancort, José Luis, Borja and Junquera. He now has a permanent place in Real's League side.

The seventy-seven-year-old President was delighted with the result and said "there is no need for us to worry over the next leg." Amancio, Santillana, Pirri cannot be off-form again at the same time . . . nor was there—Real played better than for ten years.

Miguel Munoz, manager of Real Madrid.

Bernabeu again. Real's evergreen President commenting on the advent of feminine football said; "Imagine crossing these Amazons with our best forwards. What a sensational player that would produce!"

Once again Austrian Max Merkel has blotted his copybook . . . this time with a player.

When Atletico Madrid played Espanol—and Espanol won—the Madrid "Fuhrer" Manager was so cross he personally insulted the Espanol inside forward saying "he wasn't a footballer, he was a gangster".

The target of his anger was inoffensive Romero, a most correct veteran player, who retaliated with "Merkel is a peasant, when a foreigner comes to Spain he should at least be educated."

So the rumpus started . . . rumours flew that each was going to sue the other . . . now it seems to have died a natural death and the cartoons show them smoking pipes of peace, shaking enormous, outsize hands . . . and Merkel declaring the only gangster he knows is "The Godfather".

make news . . . Names make news . . . Names make news

Malaga's outside-left, Parra, and Real Madrid's Perri (left) get airborne as they dispute possession during a Spanish League game.

THERE is alarm and crisis in Valencia as each week the "Ches" drop lower and lower in the League Table.

Something is radically wrong somewhere. No one seems to be able to solve the mystery. Maybe they have too many good players.

Their morale is well below zero, in spite of bold, contradictory statements. Members want President Julio de Miguel off the Board. The fans say manager Di Stefano is to blame, for his startling team selections—eight defenders and three forwards—will never make a team. The situation already appears to be hopeless but Di Stefano is still promising them the Cup.

Even their affiliated team (2nd Division Mestalla) has the same malady being stuck tightly on the bottom rung of Division 2.

Avoiding regulations is a new habit that is disturbing Spanish football. I suppose this kind of thing will one day disappear when we get an iron hand at the top—if we ever do. This time the Madrid Clubs . . . Real and Atletico . . . are in the centre of the rumpus.

The Spanish transfer regulations say that no player may be transferred to another Club in the same League and play for his new team in the same season. It makes mid-season transfers impossible, it stops teams buying specifically to avoid relegation to win the Championship and it confines the bad publicity, that transfers usually bring, to between June 30 and August 1.

Although a loaned player may not according to the rules play against the Club he originally signed for in the same season—some Clubs put them in immediately—in fact in every team a loaned player is playing, making a mockery of the rules.

Atletico Madrid was opposed this year by four players they loaned to Burgos, and Benegas has played for both Atletico and Burgos.

Second Division Santander have four Real Madrid players, and Castellon, whose four borrowed Real Madrid players brought them promotion last year, have played in the First Division against the rules.

Barcelona, Celta, Valencia have all ceded players to each other. It is difficult to find, sometimes, which player belongs to whom.

A new campaign in Spain is in hand, at aiming to make all Clubs public limited companies, as in England. Quoted on the Stock Exchange and in accordance with Company Laws and foolproof laws.

What a job it will be converting the present lackadaisical regulations. I suppose lawyers on the Boards of various Clubs will get a fat fee.

Madrid's Bernabeu says: "We are not ready for converting yet".

Mercy me! If Real Madrid are not ready to convert then the rest—excepting Atletico Madrid and Barcelona—must be in a helluva mess!

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CHARLIE GEORGE

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Poland's outstanding forward writes about his career and prospects

I WAS virtually pushed into football by my primary school teacher when I was only 12 years old. At first I attempted to forego playing for my school team as I treated soccer as a waste of time! Basically collecting stamps interested me much more then.

Now, of course, I am very thankful to my teacher, Mr. Georg Cich who was a really stubborn chap and was always forcing me to play. My mother, too, was perpetually trying to persuade me to play. And during the first few years of my career she was both my best tutor and coach.

It was some years later when I understood why she was so dedicated to the job of my becoming a top-class player. She simply wanted to show my father that his son could play better soccer than him. You see my father, a director of a coal mine at Sosnica, had played football when he was a boy, but had never reached the top.

Proud

So I played in a school team at the little town of Gliwice. One day a letter came from Warsaw from the Polish Football Association informing me that I had been picked for our junior national side. You can imagine how proud I felt, and I could not sleep at all the night before the big game. I went to Warsaw with my mother, my father did not think it was right that a 15-year-old boy should go alone.

My first important match was played in front of 15,000 fans. However, the game made me very depressed as I didn't score a goal and missed numerous easy chances. Of course, I wanted to co-operate with my team-mates, but I even found this difficult.

Failure

I suppose the reason for my failure was the fact that we were playing together for the first time. By the way, the Hungarians won the game 1-0. In the cloakroom after the match I nearly wept, but our manager, Mr. W. Motoczynski, praised me for my play and he promised to pick me for the next junior international.

But I never played for the junior side again! What was the reason? Was I too young at 15? No! Two days after the match a man visited my family and talked for a long time with my father, while my mother watched me from another room where I was preparing myself for the entrance examination to the Ceramic Technical School.

When our guest had left, my father said to me: "Wlodzia, if you want you can play for the Cornik Zabrze Club. But as you are still young, your mother and I will decide what you have to do. The most important thing for you is to graduate, and if you can cope with both learning and playing football, I certainly don't object."

Quite unexpectedly I found myself playing for the best club in Poland, a club I never even dreamt of playing for. Gliwice is only five miles from Zabrze, and my mother always accompanied me when I went for training sessions and games. Thus I started my career with Gornik, my first and only club.

In November 1962, after some months of very tiresome winter training, our coach decided to select me for our first team in a Polish Cup match against Ruch Chorzow. However, my first match for Gornik was indeed a sorry one as we lost 3-0. Once more I had brought bad luck to my team, but Ruch were very strong opponents.

A week later we went to Szczecin to play Arkonia in a league match. We won 4-1, and I was lucky enough to score twice. What a day that was! Those were my first league goals, and now I have lost count of them.

Advantage

After two years of playing for Gornik, I contracted an illness from which I took two years to recover. I was taken to hospital where I was made to lie motionless for three months. However, after a year I was quite well, and my doctor allowed me to train after another six months. So I took advantage of this period of inactivity to study. Being 19 years old I had finished technical school and I had a profession. In fact, it was the only thing my father was glad of.

Now, of course, I am playing again, and am full of beans as I am literally crazy about soccer. Scoring goals is real fun for me, but I also realise that life can be extremely depressing for the goalkeeper of the opposing team. Just ask Jeunesse Hautcharage's 'keeper!

To tell you the truth I found it immensely hard to score my 100th goal for my club. My tally remained at 99 for a very long time—more than a month, I think. What was the reason for this? Mostly my lack of scoring power was caused by the fact that the Polish defenders were taking much "more care" of me.

I have regularly been the leading scorer in the Polish Football League (once I scored 24 goals in 26 matches).

Leighton James of Wales takes on Jerry Kraska (5) of Poland.

Wlodzimierz Lubanski

GUEST WRITER

I think my best scoring performance in League football was against Zaglebie a few years ago when I scored a hat-trick and thus tied with Banas at the half-way stage of that season.

In my comparatively short football career I have already played well over 300 games. I made my international debut at the age of 16 against Norway, and we thrashed them 9-0.

In my opinion the best schooling for any player is the international game. Matches against unknown sides give the greatest opportunity I know of learning all the arts and crafts of big-time soccer. You see, playing against clubs brimful of world stars means that you can try to adopt some facets of their repertoire.

As far as I am concerned I like to fight for the ball and a great many coaches praise me for this. But if I wanted to alter my style completely I would like to be like Bobby Charlton. He plays with such a subtle quietness and deliberation that I know that if I played in such a manner I would surely be a much better player.

Acceleration

My favourite idol is Eusebio. When I look at the Portuguese star, I really and truly realise how much hard work I have to do before I can possibly match his genius. I confess that I have copied one element of his play, and I am sure he is not at all angry about it.

It is his fantastic acceleration, which enables me to escape an opposing defender and get into the most convenient shooting position. Now, after a great deal of hard training, I think I have mastered this part of Eusebio's armoury.

International fixtures are undoubtedly the ideal occasions to learn the newest methods of training and tactics.

We Poles especially admire the tactical discipline shown by British teams. Their way of playing is not full of great technical finesse, but we Poles really appreciate the English system.

Speaking about British football, one thing deserves to be mentioned, and that is the attitude of your supporters during a match. In Poland we always dream of being urged on by the public as nearly aways occurs in England. It is obvious to me that English football fans had a great share in Sir Alf Ramsey's success in winning the 1966 World Cup.

In my view the influence exerted by the British sports followers on their teams is not matched by any country in Europe. I observed it clearly during the European Cup-tie with Manchester United. Do not think for one minute that I am just paying a compliment to the British — all I wish is that our fans were like yours!

VETERANS STE HEADLINES TH

by ARTHUR ROTMIL

IS football no longer just a young man's game? What is the current age limit for performers at the highest level of professional soccer? These questions are prompted by the remarkable upsurge of players who are—or were until recently—considered to have reached the veteran stage of their careers, but who have nonetheless captured the headlines and the imagination of the public during the past year.

England's last elected "Footballer of the Year", goalkeeper Gordon Banks was at the time a ripe 34, the runner-up Johnny Giles was 31, and third placed George Eastham 35 years old, or should it be young! He in fact scored the winning goal in the League Cup final at Wembley last season, when Stoke beat Chelsea by 2-1 to claim the club's first trophy in 109 years of existence.

Banks' predecessor, in 1971, the Arsenal captain Frank McLintock was then 31. And Jackie Charlton collected his first FA Cup winners' medal two days before his 37th birthday! Yet footballers are supposed to be suffering from stress and fatigue within the extensive commitments, playing more matches than ever before and forever chasing trophies and bonuses.

Relegation

This season two more such performers in "advanced" age spring instantly to mind. Bobby Charlton (35) who is helping Manchester United to stave off relegation and Alan Gilzean who, at 34, figures prominently in the attacking plans of the country's most successful Cup team, Tottenham. There are of course a number of other long serving stars who appear to be revelling in a process of rejuvenation. But this phenomenon is not just confined to British football.

Even in Latin countries, where for reasons of climate, diet and individual temperament, footballers rarely progress into the late 'thirties at top level, there is at least one famous star who seems to have been injected with an "elixir of youth".

The Brazilian-born Jose Altafini, nearly 35-years-old centre forward, is currently playing a major role in the successes of the Italian champions Juventus of Turin. Despite the fact that at the start of the season he was used sparingly, mostly as a substitute, Altafini was recently voted by the team captains of the Serie A (First Division) as the best player of the first half of the term!

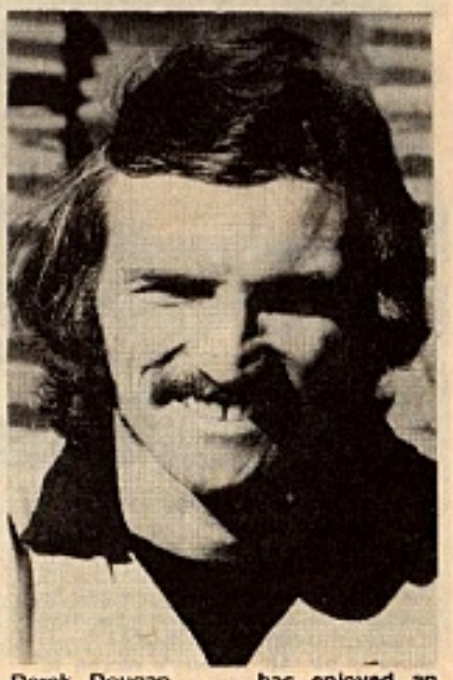
This opinion is also shared by many experts, who regard the astonishing improvement of this "veteran" since his transfer from Napoli to "Juve" as nothing short of a soccer miracle.

The man who has suffered most through this sudden burst of brilliance is another ageing campaigner and forward star, the German Helmut Haller who will be 34 in July. He began the season as first choice, but in view of Altafini's displays, this former World Cup player (he scored against England in the 1966 Wembley final) has had to content himself with the role of substitute, which he shares with Bettega and Cuccureddu.

The president of Juventus and former international Giampiero Boniperti—the first ex-player to achieve such a post in Italian football—has this to say about Altafini: "He has natural talent and is as strong as a bison. In Brazil he was nicknamed "Mazzola", because he reminded with his powerful build of that unforgettable Italian star forward with Torino, Valentin Mazzola, the father of Sandro (of Inter-Milan's fame) and Ferruccio. He has legs like pillars and a chest like a huge drum.

"I once watched how Altafini and Haller ate peaches. The German peeled his fruit carefully, cut it in slices and consumed one piece after another. Altafini sank his teeth into the peach with the juice splashing out and practically swallowed large chunks with the skin—it was a wonder he didn't gulp down the pips as well!

"But that's how he is, like a tank, and always seeking the shortest route to his target. Altafini still has a tremendous shot but he can also score with a subtle flick when the occasion demands. But his greatest asset is his heading ability and some of his headers have been as powerful as some players' kicks."



Derek Dougan . . . has enjoyed an exceptional season with Wolverhampton Wanderers.

Why then was he allowed to leave first A.C. Milan and then Napoli? Altafini explains: "A professional footballer needs the occasional change of scenery. I was quite happy in Milan but after some years there, I felt I had had enough of the same surroundings and this state of mind probably influenced my performances. In Naples the management would not let me play as an orthodox centre forward and I wasn't keen to learn another role. With Juventus I can act as a striker and this is my favourite position. I haven't felt so good in years as now with the 'zebras'."

Just like the famous Argentinian Omar Sivori, so Altafini too has spent most of his soccer career in Italy. In 1958 he took part in the World Cup in Sweden, wearing the colours of his native country, Brazil. But the then 20-year-old forward was overshadowed by Vava and Pele. The Italians immediately recognised the talent of this young man whom they called "the greatest reserve player of the World Cup tournament". But when he arrived in Italy he had to abandon his assumed name of Mazzola, for in this country they only honour one—the real Mazzola! And thus he became Altafini . . .

Cauldron

Of course, when a player approaching 35 is still producing top-class displays, especially in the cauldron of Italian football, it means that he has to adjust his mode of life to the increased physical demands. But in this respect Jose Altafini has never experienced any problems. His manager, the Czech-born Cestmir Vycpalek, describes him as a model for professional players. Despite the, in some cases, considerable disparity in ages, Altafini has established fine relations with all his team mates.

The younger players admire his good humour, his optimistic attitude, as well as his playing qualities. "What a pity that Altafini was not born in Italy," said one Italian official recently, who is connected with the national team selectors. "We have been able to include him a few times in Italy's colours, but unfortunately the days are over when we could pick the Italo-South Americans ("oriundi") at random."

EAL THE IS YEAR

One record which Altafini still holds and which has now survived fully ten years: In the 1962-63 season, whilst still with A.C. Milan, he hit 14 goals in the European Cup of the Champions competition! And it was his brilliantly headed goal which helped Juventus to overcome Ujpest-Dozsa and thus earn a crack at Derby County in the current European Cup semi-finals!

Triumphs

By a strange coincidence Altafini's former boss, Nereo Rocco, is the "grand old man" among Italian managers. Rocco is still guiding A.C. Milan, whom he led to their greatest triumphs. They are in fact the only club who have won all three major trophies, the world club championship and the European Champions Cup both in 1969, and the Cup Winners Cup in 1968. Their other European Cup victory dates back to 1963. Rocco, who is 60, has been a First Division manager for over 22 years.

He reminds one in many ways of that best known Italian referee Concetto Lo Bello. Both men are respected for their integrity and neither seeks to excuse mistakes with flimsy arguments. This attitude has earned Rocco a reputation for being honest, loyal and sincere. He has become a father figure, which in modern football is quite a rarity and can best be compared with the role enjoyed by Sir Matt Busby of Manchester United fame.

Bobby Charlton, captain of Manchester United, has played a key role in United bid to get out of relegation waters.

First class

Rocco himself says: "A good manager is in my opinion far more than just a man who looks after the physical condition and playing form of his charges and whose principal task is to devise tactics for the next game. A good manager is a mixture of a gymnastics demonstrator, lecturer, father, confessor, education adviser, and expert on financial investments and well informed on many other subjects. But the most important factor is that he has the complete confidence of his players.

"A really first-class team grows slowly together, but it lasts so much longer. I don't think that managers should be changing clubs too often. To become successful one must have patience, especially at management level and of course where the board of directors are concerned. I shall never understand those club presidents who regard the position of manager as a temporary appointment, subject to instant success. Such a policy usually ends in failure."

Rocco is happy in Milan, although he once fell out with his bosses and left the club for four years during which he managed the A.C. Torino, but he was never quite contented there. "I don't know why it was, perhaps it was just my imagination," explains Rocco, "I wasn't very keen on the soccer atmosphere in Turin, and in addition I had too much respect before the great local rivals Juventus. It could be that all this had had a negative effect on the club, although we have achieved some remarkable successes. When I returned to Milan (1967), then I came to life again."

Team spirit

Has he any problems now? Rocco: "Nothing in particular to worry about. The playing squad is very good, so are the finances, and the team spirit is excellent. My problems are quite different. It boils down to the necessity to organise some twenty prosperous young men, all with their individual priorities, into an effective unit serving collectively a common cause.

And this isn't quite so easy as some imagine. The days of the managers acting like sergeant majors are over. One of the reasons is that the standards of education among footballers have improved enormously. Especially at top level, there are no primitive individuals left, as more and more players are intellectuals.

"The use of modern tactics requires not only physical, but also mental mobility. The players are encouraged to think and to take the initiative. Such men cannot be ordered about, they must be persuaded and convinced."

And Rocco adds this significant disclosure: "We at A.C. Milan have created a players' committee to which our captain Rivera and the German ace Schnellinger belong. With these men, but also with the rest of the team, we arrange meetings before each match. We then discuss all outstanding problems but I have always the last word, because after all the responsibility rests in my hands."

Two million ticket sale . . . suspension

THE first of more than two million tickets for next summer's World Cup finals in West Germany went on sale last month throughout the Federal Republic. The biggest initial demand is expected for West German's three opening matches in Hamburg and West Berlin.

The organisers also expect tickets for the match for third place and the Final itself in Munich to be in great demand during the first few days of the sales.

A total of 2,129,000 tickets are being printed for the 38 games which will make up the championship finals between June 13 and July 7 next year. Of these, 1,720,000 are being made available for the advance sales with 1,250,000 being offered at 208 sales offices throughout West Germany.

The rest of the world's allocation will be 470,000 mainly going to European countries. "The remainder of the tickets will remain unsold until nearer the opening of the championships," a spokesman for the organisers said. He added: "There is bound to be a last minute demand from abroad once the other finalists are known.

Qualifying

At the moment fans are buying blind, in most cases not knowing which nations are playing in the matches for which they will hold tickets. The 14 finalists, in addition to West Germany (hosts) and Brazil (holders) will not be known until the qualifying rounds are completed at the end of the year. The draw for the finals will not be made until early in 1974.

The tickets will be rationed initially to eight per person. They cost from 10 marks (about £1.40p) for the uncovered terracing at an opening round match to 80 marks (£11.40p) for a centre stand seat at the Final.

To help boost sales the organisers have announced that West Germany's opening round matches will kick-off earlier than those involving the other finalists. This decision was taken in view of the strong possibility that the other finalists would play before small crowds with Germans staying at home to follow the fortunes of their national team on television.

The organisers expect to earn between 35 and 40 million marks (about five to six million sterling) from ticket sales. But the sales revenue will come nowhere near covering the cost of staging the finals.

The total World Cup bill is currently estimated at about 250 million marks (about 35 million sterling), most of it going on improving facilities at the World Cup centres throughout the country.

The games are being staged at nine stadia . . . Munich, West Berlin, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Hanover, Gelsenkirchen, Dusseldorf, Dortmund and Stuttgart. Of these, only the new Olympic Stadium at Munich came up to FIFA standards for the championships.

Federal and State grants are being provided to help the West German football authorities foot the final bill.

UNRULY CROWDS

UNRULY crowds and players at Israeli games may force the suspension of soccer in Israel, a Tel Aviv District Judge has warned. Judge Shlomo Lowenberg, considering a legal motion for the suspension of all games or provision of proper police supervision to control players and crowds, declared: "Sport and violence cannot exist side by side. If the public prefers violence, we may have to consider seriously whether it is possible to continue holding football games under such conditions."

The Judge held that it was technically impossible to dismiss the application out of hand, but agreed to adjourn the hearings until the end of the current football season, to enable the Respondent, The Chairman of the Maccabi-Holon club, Mr Haim Bar-Am, to present up-to-date statistics. "We all know that soccer games in this country are accompanied by violence," he added.

BRAZIL'S PLANS

MORE than 500 days before the start of the 1974 World Cup, a four-man delegation from Brazil headed by national manager Mario Zagalo have visited West Germany to find suitable accommodation! Their choice fell on a charming locality called Hofheim im Taunus, which lies near Frankfurt where the defending world champions will play the opening match of the final series. For the remaining group matches the Brazilians have booked quarters in an hotel in Essen.

Until their arrival in Germany, the Brazilian national side are planning to take part in 15 games, including 10 during their imminent tour of Africa and Europe in May and June. The rest of this preparatory programme will be completed in South America. Brazil's African & European schedule is as follows:

June 3; v. Morocco; June 6: v. Tunisia; June 9: v. Italy; June 12: v. Austria; June 16: v. West Germany; June 21: v. Russia; June 24: v. Sweden; June 30: v. Scotland; July 8: v. Switzerland; July 11: v. France.

Not too much should be expected of this side which will lack the usual meticulous preparation. In addition, it is certain that Zagalo will use the trip to "blood" a number of youngsters and alternately give a chance to those players who have never tasted European conditions.

Not forgetting the significant fact that within such a tight programme, they will not always be able to turn out at full strength. It is however generally assumed, that for the World Cup the Brazilians will eventually pick at least seven men from the squad which brought them that splendid victory in 1970.

SECURITY OPERATIONS

WITH the start of the 1974 World Cup finals only 14 months away, and with memories of the Munich Olympic shootings still fresh, security looms large in the preparations. In crammed offices near Frankfurt's football stadium, a group of 30 German Football Association officials are organising a World Cup that they hope will be unhampered by the blast of ideals and image-boosting that bedevilled the Munich Olympic Games—and turn out a money-spinner into the bargain.

Heading the organising team is 49-year-old Hermann Joch, a top FA official with a reputation for organising wizardy. He says he is sorry that the World Cup follows so closely on the heels of the Olympics, but adds that this puts him in the enviable position of being able to learn from the mistakes of his Olympic colleagues.

"Having the World Cup two years after the Olympic Games has not turned out to be an advantage," he told Reuter in a recent interview "Some offices are tir asked again for financ have to earn our r Olympia had official said.

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The Olympic Games several hundred on th months before the Joch plans to organis Cup—considered virtu sporting attraction to th with his present small last phase leading up to

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become a major concern, especially since the massacre of Israeli sportsmen at the Munich Olympics.

"We have been warned that events that are so much in the focus of public attention are being hand-picked by people who have something on their minds. This is clear to us. We therefore asked the Federal Government after the Olympics to set-up a special committee for security questions."

WIN FOR GHANA

FIFA have awarded Ghana a 2-0 victory over Nigeria in their riot-hit World Cup qualifying round match in Lagos on February 10. The first-leg match was abandoned five minutes before the end of scheduled time when Ghana were leading 3-2. The second leg was drawn 0-0 in Accra, so the verdict of FIFA's disciplinary committee left Ghana 2-0 winners on aggregate.

The first leg was abandoned when spectators invaded the pitch and attacked the Congolese match officials and later a Ghanaian vehicle was smashed and set ablaze. Ghana now meet Zaire in African Group zone three home and away matches to be played before August 31. The three group winners in Africa will meet in another series to be held between September 1 and December 31, with the top team going through to the finals.

oreboard at the Olympic Stadium in Munich.

WORLD CUP CHART

Match Timetable for the FIFA World Cup 1974, with Kick-off Times

1st Final Round	Opening Match	1st Match Day		2nd Match Day		3rd Match Day		
Date	Thursday 13.6.	Friday 14.6.	Saturday 15.6.	Tuesday 18.6.	Wednesday 19.6.	Saturday 22.6.	Sunday 23.6.	
Group I								
Berlin		*16.00* 2:1		*19.30* 1:3		*16.00* 4:1		Winner = A1
Hamburg		*19.30* 3:4		*16.00* 4:2		*19.30* 3:2		Second = B5
Group II								
Dortmund		*19.30* 7:8						
Gelsenkirchen				*19.30* 5:7		*16.00* 7:6		Winner = B6
Frankfurt	*17.00* 6:5			*19.30* 8:6		*16.00* 8:5		Second = A2
Group III								
Dortmund					*19.30* 9:11		*16.00* 12:9	
Düsseldorf			*16.00* 11:12				*16.00* 11:10	Winner = A3
Hannover			*16.00* 10:9		*19.30* 12:10			Second = B7
Group IV								
Munich			*18.00* 14:13		*19.30* 13:15		*16.00* 16:13	Winner = B8
Stuttgart			*18.00* 15:16		*19.30* 16:14		*16.00* 15:14	Second = A4

2nd Final Round	1st Match Day	2nd Match Day	3rd Match Day		
Date	Wednesday 26.6.	Sunday 30.6.	Wednesday 3.7.		
Kick-off time	*19.30*	*16.00*	*19.30*		
Group A					
Dortmund			A3:A2		
Gelsenkirchen	A3:A4	A1:A3*	A4:A1*	Winner	A
Hannover	A2:A1*	A4:A2		Second	A
Group B					
Düsseldorf	B6:B5*	B5:B7*	B7:B6		
Frankfurt		B8:B6	B8:B5*	Winner	B
Stuttgart	B7:B8			Second	B

(N.B.: If Germany FR qualifies for the Second Final Round (as A1 or B5), the matches of the German team marked * will begin as follows: on 26.6. at 16.00, on 30.6. at 19.30 and on 3.7. at 16.00)

3rd Place Match:

Munich, Saturday, 6.7., *16.00* Second A v. Second B

Final:

Munich, Sunday, 7.7., *16.00* Winner A v. Winner B

Eric Thornton looks at the man who has rejuvenated soccer in Sunderland

STOKOE — MIRACLE MANAGER

WE'RE nearing the time when most folk begin considering their nominations for the annual title of Manager of the Season, and it seems to me that once again there'll be no shortage of candidates.

When everything's been whittled down, the short list will obviously include such as Bertie Mee, Bill Shankly, Don Revie, Brian Clough and Bill McGarry, along with Bobby Robson, Jimmy Adamson, Tommy Docherty, Harry Haslam, and Bob Stokoe.

They've all strong claims, though some may be slightly unexpected contenders. Mee, Shankly, Revie and Clough were likely challengers right from the early games, but the rest have come into the reckoning gradually, with Stokoe possibly the last arrival on the scene.

Now, there's an interesting character. A player who stormed through to a winning Wembley final with Newcastle United, in the famous days of Jimmy Scoular and Jackie Milburn. Then knew it tough while managing Bury and Charlton, struggled with Rochdale, and, finally, had further experience with Carlisle and Blackpool before going back home to his beloved north-east.

Reared

He may not willingly admit it, but this man for whom Sunderland paid Blackpool £12,000 for an early release, and was reared in the Northumbrian village of Mickley, always yearned for a return to that part of the soccer world.

For wasn't it as a nipper of only sixteen that he first thrilled to the excitement of sharing a St James's Park dressing-room with Joe Harvey, Bobby Mitchell and the rest—even when they did manage to beat him on the snooker tables!

His short stay with Blackpool was enjoyable after taking plenty of stick until the team began winning, and, really, Stokoe had seemed Hell bent on tasting another dose when assuming responsibility for the Roker boys.

That never materialised, of course, and it was because he possesses, among many other talents, an unusual and particular asset—a remarkable ability to motivate players.

He was doing exactly that while guiding the Bloomfield Road team into the promotion race at the halfway stage, and then repeating the performance with a Sunderland outfit which had appeared a good bet for a spot in the lower echelons of the Third Division.

Bob breathed new life into players as they were having serious doubts about themselves. They rediscovered their latent talent, began sketching a new trail, and built a wonderful new image of themselves.

The team slowly pulled away from the wrong end of the Second Divison chart, and then, suddenly, developed into a Cup prospect which no-one—yes, no-one—had ever visualised before Stokoe's advent.

A Fifth Round tie with Manchester City provided the golden opportunity to win back all those thousands of lost fans, and it's got to be admitted they took that hurdle in the style of a gold medallist.

Demolished

Holding their rivals to a draw at Maine Road, Sunderland demolished them in the return fixture, then proceeded to make a meal of Luton Town in the next stage, and came up against Arsenal in the semi-final at Hillsborough.

Somewhat naturally, the odds favoured The Gunners, as they chased the elusive double of Cup and League, yet according to The Boss, and the soccer-crazy town of Sunderland, his boys were right in there with a great chance.

And how right he was as Sunderland caused the shock of the season by beating Arsenal 2-0 and earning a place in the FA Cup Final.

Confidence

Of course, the twin towers of Wembley always raise the confidence of competitors, though in this instance the result could not change the club's forward planning—a march back into the top circle.

Stokoe, looking back over eleven years of dragging the family up and down the country, and savouring north-east fervour once again, crystalised the whole position by saying: "It's essential that Sunderland gets back into the First Division as quickly as possible."

Then this man who is in a hurry, added: "It's no good talking about two or three year plans, because the fans are not interested in long term proposals for the climb up into the top circle, and, come to that, neither am I."

Bob Stokoe, who has put Sunderland back on the soccer map.

NEWSDESK

Dzajic breaks left leg . . .

DRAGAN Dzajic, of Red Star and Yugoslavia, has broken his left leg and will be out of action until June at least. The injury came during a collision between Dzajic and FC Proleter goalkeeper Sarovac.

Sarovac's knee hit Dzajic's left leg from the rear and broke his fibula. It was almost a freak: one doctor said it would happen only once in 1,000 cases. This is the third serious injury for Dzajic in 18 months.

"Bad luck follows me all the time," he said. "I think this could be the beginning of the end for me as a player. I will be in plaster until May 5. Then I shall need six weeks rehabilitation. I shall start training in the summer so that I shall be ready for the World Cup qualification matches versus Spain and Greece.

"Then I go into Army service. I shall be 28 then and if I have any other injuries I shall quit playing completely."

Dragan Dzajic, receiving treatment for his broken leg.

FIFA have welcomed a new Chinese News Agency report that China is interested in rejoining FIFA after an absence of 15 years. A spokesman said that not only FIFA, but all those interested in the development of football all over the world, would welcome the Chinese move.

He said that if an application was received in time, China could be given provisional membership at the next meeting of the FIFA Executive in Leipzig, East Germany, on May 14. It would then have to wait for full membership until the next FIFA Congress in Frankfurt in June 1974.

ENGLAND manager Sir Alf Ramsey was not impressed with the condition of the Chorzow Stadium pitch when he inspected facilities for England's forthcoming World Cup qualifying round match in Poland. Sir Alf said the size of the stadium and its surroundings were good enough though the playing surface still needed plenty of preparation.

"But I think that before the match the Poles will bring the pitch up to standard," he said. An English squad of 20 players and 16 officials will arrive in Poland in time for a training session on the eve of the match with another scheduled shortly before the kick-off on June 6. Sir Alf said the squad would not be bringing their own cook to Poland "because Polish food suits us."

THERE seems increasing doubt as to whether the Brazilian international Tostao will be available for next year's World Cup, following further trouble with his left eye. Tostao, who almost missed the 1970 competition in Mexico because of an eye injury that occurred in mishcading a ball, was secretly flown to Houston in Texas at the end of February for what was described as minor surgery.

But it now seems that Tostao had a major operation on about April 3, to attach the retina of his left eye, which had become displaced for a second time. Even if there are no further complications, it seems unlikely that doctors will want him to risk further injury by playing football, even if Tostao deliberately avoids heading the ball in future.

THE leading scorer in French football, Salif Keita, is returning to his native Mali. He has signed for the Djoliba Athletic Club in the Malian capital of Bamako, ironically the bitter rivals of the team he left to go to France, Bamako Real.

It was only last October when Marseille paid Saint Etienne some £85,000 for Keita's transfer, but since then they have run into trouble over the French League regulation that permits only two foreign players to take part in a match at any one time. Marseille tried hard to persuade Keita to take out French citizenship, to which he was entitled, and which would have enabled them of course to include him without restriction. But Keita declined, possibly because he feels that six years in the French League is more than enough.

JEUNESSE D'Esch, already champions in Luxembourg, have been coasting of late and after drawing 1-1 against Union their nearest rivals they beat Fola by the odd goal in three to maintain their eight point lead.

Most interesting news concerns the other sides in the League and the scoring feats of Ettelbruck striker Grettenich whose four goals against The National in a 7-1 win has put him among the leading scorers in Europe with 25 goals and the victims as favourites for relegation along with the already doomed Bettembourg.

Bettembourg were beaten 9-2 at Beggen and 5-0 against Red Boys and still have only six points from the season's programme; a performance which takes the biscuit if not the cake . . .

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Burtenshaw controversy still rages in London

PERSONAL OPINION

by LESLIE VERNON

ONCE upon a time there was a referee who could run very fast. That was rather important for him, because not only did he keep up with the play, but was also quick enough to escape the fury of the crowd at Millwall, South Africa, and at other well-known trouble spots. He was often mobbed by players, and once reported the entire Benfica team to the Ministry of Environment.

I feel that I must reveal his identity as Mr. Norman Burtenshaw, otherwise no-one will believe this incredible story. The game was quite important, winning it was worth about £200,000, not to mention the prestige and the general effect of a victory or defeat within the club. 62,000 faithful fans made the pilgrimage to Highbury.

Bare hands

Following some quite brilliant football, Charlie George scored a picture goal. One expected our flying refie to run alongside the ball and pick it out of the net with his bare hands. But he wasn't there at all! To our astonishment, he was still in the Arsenal half, taking down the personal details of Chris Garland, punishing him for some offence which was invisible to the naked eye. Consequently, no goal was given.

Later, Kember brought down Armstrong, and Burtenshaw awarded a free kick. The Arsenal players right on cue, mobbed him, but the highly experienced FIFA official waved them away with dramatic gestures, which reminded me of a recent production of "Julius Caesar" by the Brixton Undertakers' Operatic Society (Act II, Scene VIII).

An Arsenal player promptly sat on ball, which made the taking of a free kick rather personal and complicated, while the others descended on Mr. D. Griffiths the linesman who stood motionless, apparently contemplating whether he should register himself for VAT or not.

After a second opinion on the incident was obtained from the "Red Flag", the posse returned to Mr. Burtenshaw to convey the hot piece of news that the dreadful offence was committed inside the box. The ref., like a man inspired, did one of his short sprints to the edge of the box stopped dead, pointed to a spot *outside* the forbidden territory, and once again took up his position at the far post.

Proceedings

At this point in the farcical proceedings, one anticipated a loudspeaker message from Sir Stanley Rous to the Arsenal players, asking them to release the ball from their custody, and promising them safe conduct to the borders of Chigwell.

A further deputation presented themselves to Burtenshaw, who must have decided that if he wanted to catch the last train home, he'd better have a word with the immobile Mr. Griffiths. The confrontation, which was arranged without the expert help of Mr. Kissinger, resulted in a penalty award, and the "Gunners" won the Cup replay 2-1. (This information is reprinted here for the sake of a distant cousin who lives in an extremely small village in Guatemala).

But seriously, (who's laughing?) let's look at the implication of this tragicomic incident, and try to make sure that it remains an isolated case and not a blue-print for the future. I am not just voicing my own opinion. The press box was in an uproar at Highbury. "Diabolical" was the mildest adjective used, and we all felt that once again a magnificent match was ruined by the ref.

It is easy to be sarcastic at the expense of Mr. Burtenshaw. So I'll say, without frills, that I always thought that he was a bad referee. Speed is not everything. A top-class official must be able to make split-second decisions (and stick to them!), and he ought to be an expert in man-management.

At Tottenham, a Setubal player was cautioned for kicking the ball away when a decision was awarded against him. When referee Bircsak gave his version of the incident to the UEFA observer, he called it officially a caution for dissent. Quite right, of course, but what do you call it when players are allowed to push a weak referee around, refuse to take free kicks, and compel him to consult a linesman?

If this is accepted as normal, then in future, no-one should be booked for dissent, and every time a decision is given, players would be entitled to an explanation or confirmation from a second party. This sort of chaos would undermine the referees' authority even further, and teams with the more skilled "protesters" would have a distinct advantage over a more introverted bunch.

Contrary to what Jimmy Hill said on T.V., there is already a perfect system of communication between the officials —it is the flag! If the linesman wishes to draw the attention of the referee, whether it has to do with a player's behaviour, the crowd, or anything else, all he has to do is to raise, and keep up, his flag, and the referee is obliged to talk to him.

I wish to summarise my observations concerning the Burtenshaw affair in these points:

1. He awarded a free kick. If he thought the incident occurred inside the area, he might not have blown at all.

2. Mr. Griffiths gave no indication of his disapproval of the decision, and he had no business to communicate in any shape or form with the players. The First Commandment of lining is: "Thou shalt never openly disagree with the referee."

3. Burtenshaw should have taken the heat out of the situation by going over to the linesman at once, or not at all. Angonese demonstrated at Derby the following day how to give a bad decision. Hector was tripped by a Czech defender clearly inside the box. The Italian ref. didn't think it was worth a goal (penalty), put the ball on the line and indicated that there was absolutely no room for argument.

4. The film of the match showed that the Arsenal players were right. Mr. Burtenshaw stated on television, (it pays to be controversial), that he always works closely with his linesmen. It took him two minutes to remember that — not on T.V., on the pitch.

Paradoxically, whether the offence was inside or outside the area doesn't matter — the behaviour of the officials and players was still wrong, and it is curious that when the "trial by television' 'works in their favour, no-one ever complains, but howls of protest can be heard when the pictures prove that the referee is only human.

ERIC BATTY traces the career of the successor to Josef Masopust

KUNA... SPARTAK'S NEW-STYLE LIBERO!

LADISLAV Kuna of Spartak Trnava is now established as the natural successor to the inimitable Josef Masopust and together with his club mate Dobias is probably the only player that the Czechs can claim is really international class. When Masopust was at his peak, Kuna was only a boy in the tiny Slovakian village of Hlohovci and before Kuna could establish himself several other players had occupied the left midfield role, notably Jan Geleta (Dukla) and Andrelj Kvasnak (Sparta).

Somehow Geleta failed to mature and Kvasnak passed the age of no return and for the 1970 World Cup, Kuna was the accepted midfield general. With the Czechs generally failing to make any impression in the competition proper, losing all their three games, Kuna failed to attract the attention of the World's press. He was, however, a very accomplished player but being essentially a constructive midfield player he failed to get any response from the Czech front players.

This has been the weakness of the Czech international side for some years for though their approach play is both imaginative and skilful, their finish is almost non-existent.

Kuna's career began with a village team, Slovan Hlohovci in the 1960's and when he was 15 he joined Spartak Trnava his local senior club. It can truthfully be said that Kuna grew up with them for at the time Trnava were in the Second Division. In 1964 Kuna made his league debut in the local derby against Slovan Bratislava.

Unobtrusive

At this time he was earning a string of Youth caps and played at inside left in the Czech UEFA Youth team of 1965. For Trnava and the Czech national team Kuna has usually worn the number 9 shirt but, in the traditional Central European style, the centre forward leads the attack from behind.

With Spartak Trnava establishing themselves in the First Division and with a very young team, steadily improving, Kuna developed. To the casual observer he was overshadowed by the flamboyant but temperamental Adamec, already an experienced international with a tremendous left foot shot. Adamec got the goals but it was the unobtrusive Kuna who did most of the spade work.

First capped in 1967, Kuna's abilities were fully recognised two years later when he was voted Czechoslovakia's Footballer of the Year but still his reputation failed to travel beyond the Czech borders. To a large extent this was due to an apparent isolationist policy adopted by his club Spartak for even now, having won the Czech championship four times in five years Trnava have never played in West Germany, Italy, France or Switzerland and until they were paired with Derby County in the European Cup they had never played in England.

Like most of the truly gifted players Kuna has an instinct for being in the right place at the right time and doing the simple thing well. Always easy to find in midfield by a defender who wins possession, Kuna also sees a lot of the ball through his knack of intercepting passes in midfield. With immaculate ball control, Kuna screens the ball like a master but unobtrusively prefers by nature to play the ball quickly and accurately to a colleague rather than dribble past opponents.

In his early days Kuna was seldom seen within shooting distance of goal and scoring was a rarity. But as he matured he began to develop into a more complete player and if not a regular goalscorer he now gets his share. In the last Czech championship, encouraged to go forward more often he ran up a tally of 13 goals—only six fewer than the First Division's top scorer— and has recently begun to get international goals, too.

Opposition

Against British opposition the Czechs have seldom been seen at their best and in 1971 they struggled in European championship matches against Wales. In Prague it was Kuna who scored the only goal of the game and at Swansea where the Welshmen were threatening for most of the game with Wyn Davies and Ron Davies, it was Kuna who turned the game.

Withdrawing from centre forward, he had a magnificent match, often battling almost alone in a densely packed Welsh midfield. Midway through the second half the game turned when the Czechs scored twice within a minute. Kuna it was who laid on the pass for the first goal after a jinking run past three men.

But if Kuna is an accepted star in midfield his best position was revealed in the critical second leg against Derby when he played the new style Libero-game *à la Beckenbauer*. In this role Kuna's intelligence and sense of anticipation enable him to look composed even under pressure.

Here, too, he revealed an ability in the air that was never before prominent and it was very largely due to him that Derby failed to score the vital early goal that would have enabled them to play with confidence.

Revelation

At the back Kuna was a revelation, never wasting the ball and always easy to find for a colleague under pressure and in the second half he became more adventurous as Trnava earnestly sought the goal they needed to qualify. In the last fifteen minutes Derby were made to look anything but composed and at times defended desperately as Kuna moved permanently into midfield to launch a stream of attacks.

A deceptive feint and an elegant left foot are Kuna's prime weapons, allied to an alert eye and a quick brain. With 44 caps he is the Czech's most experienced active player at international level and on his display at Derby he must be rated the World's number two new-style Libero: the last man in defence and the first in attack.

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BRIAN GLANVILLE meets an Englishman in France

PAGE-JON —A HAPPY

NIGEL PAGE-JONES wrote to me the other day to say he was sorry I wasn't, now, in Brest. The sun was shining, the fishing was excellent, and the wine was good. Nigel Page-Jones is the Brest left-back, by common consent the best in the French Second Division, 26 years old, a Herefordshire villager from Bromyard, one of seven brothers, who a few years ago was playing for Gloucester City, in the Southern League. Times, certainly, have changed.

They began to change, did he but know it, when a friend persuaded him to go to a party in Hereford. It was there that he met his future wife, Muriel, a Brest University student, at present completing a thesis on 17th and 18th century demography for her master's degree. They live comfortably in a small flat on the outskirts of this now anonymous city; a tragic reminder of the appalling destruction it suffered in the war.

Page-Jones did not speak a word of French when he arrived, having given up not only his part-time career with Gloucester City, a club he'd joined from Hereford United, but his job as an electronic engineer for the Post Office. The choice, he insists, was not hard. With Gloucester, he was just a Southern League player, one of hundreds. With Brest, he's "a bit of a personality", with a style of life he could never have attained in England.

Idiomatic

"You'll have to excuse my English," he says. "I find it very difficult to find the words, now." His French, indeed, is fluent and idiomatic, with the curious consequence that when he does speak English, in his brisk West Midland accent, the construction of his sentences is often French.

Technically he's now an amateur; below Division One, French clubs have the choice not to become professional. Once they do, life becomes more real and earnest; though not real or earnest enough for Page-Jones, who still finds an irritating dilettantism about the French game. Players, he feels, are not sufficiently committed to their clubs. He obviously misses the greater application, the robust physical contact, of the English game.

When he and the other Brest players watch English football on the television, "we're always amazed at what they can get away with. Here, I get pulled up quite a few times for what I think is a perfectly good tackle. The standard of French refereeing is very low. I'm never what I call *violent*; I'm always what I call fair, but the referees unfortunately don't always agree with me."

One might compare him, physically and in style, to Arsenal's Bob McNab, a crisp, compact, rather small player, eager to overlap when the chance presents itself. "The wingers here are rather lazy," he says. "They don't fight. They let you overlap."

Formidable

His finest game, perhaps, was last season in the cup, against the formidable Swedish international outside-right Roger Magnusson, of Olympique Marseille, at Le Havre.

"He's got two legs and he's got two arms, the same as me. For me, it's ridiculous when a player walks on the ground, he's afraid of an opponent. This is the worst feeling a player can have. Magnusson for me is a very good player, if you let him turn, and if you let him advance with the ball. So the main thing I decided before the match was that he shouldn't have the ball. He's not a player who'll go very far to find the ball.

Typical

"He's a typical winger, he'll stay on his wing and wait for the ball. In France, they retreat *en bloc*, and let the attack come to them. Any full-back who lets Magnusson come to him with the ball, he's finished, because he's a bit of a wizard with the ball. So I stayed on his back and made sure he didn't get the ball."

For Page-Jones, the ideal situation would be to play for Brest in the First Division; but Brest, a friendly, family club, whose directors were mostly its first players when it was formed in 1950, has no large ambitions. Life at or about the top of the Second Division is good; the realities of full professionalism a little forbidding. (Let it be explained that a so-called amateur in a generous Page-Jones' adjective) Second Division club

Pat Jennings, the brilliant Tottenham Hotspur and Northern Ireland goalkeeper, has been voted Footballer of the Year by the English Football Writers' Association Jennings succeeds another goalkeeper, Gordon Banks, who won the title in 1972.

ES AND BREST ASSOCIATION

like Brest can hope to pick up bonuses of nearly £30 for an important win.

"I don't know if I'd go to a First Division club," says Page-Jones, whose wife would certainly not leave Brest, "but I would still *like* an offer from a First Division club. I'm still just a little bit short again; I'm still Second Division."

"He has none of the inconvenience of a professional player," says the agreeable, grey-haired club President, M. Raymond Nicol, sagely. "That counts for a lot." What also counts a good deal with Page-Jones is the pleasant way the players are treated. He enjoys the *ritiri* to the delightful nearby fishing village of Le Conquet, where he and I ate sea food together.

"You're much more thought of. I'm considered much more highly than ever I was considered in England as a footballer. It all gives me the impression I play in a 'good' standard of football. I won't say the standard is much better than the Southern League, but the club gives me that impression. You find the clubs much richer."

Brittany, besides, is a rather special corner of France; and Page-Jones likes both the Bretons and their agreeable way of life. "Also it's a very strong district for the cuisine. I love the sea, also. In the summer I'm completely crazy about fishing. I've got quite a few friends with boats; so you go out early in the morning, take a cask of wine, and go fishing."

Electronics

When I visited him, his part-time job was a dull one in the photographic department of a store just outside Brest. His first job he had was in an electronics factory; the six days, he says, "were more like six years," and he left in haste. But the club have found him a post at the nearby port at Roskoff which, M. Nicol feels, will be ideal for him.

There is already is a good deal of trade with Plymouth in vegetables; now, it is planned to implement tourism. If it turns out as well as M. Nicol hopes, then there will be another substantial reason for Page-Jones to stay in and with Brest.

"Here," he says, "I'm perfectly happy. I can go out to a restaurant whenever I like with my wife, I can go to the Loire, visit the chateaux. I can go out in a boat and do some fishing; go to the beach. And here in France you find they eat because it's a pleasure. In England, it's a necessity, it's over in a quarter-of-an-hour, half-an-hour. Here, you can stay at the table two hours. It's not so good for a professional footballer. I had a lot of trouble at first with the cuisine here."

Pleasant problems, though. Let me end by observing that Mr Armand Fouillen, Brest's manager, told me he would like to find an English centre-forward. Write to him, however, not to me.

BOOK REVIEWS

SO many opportunities now exist for youngsters to play football that the arrival of Teaching Soccer To Boys (Bell 80p) will be welcomed by youth organisers and school teachers alike. The book is written by former West Ham player John Cartwright, now an FA coach specialising in teaching schoolboys, and Alan Gibbon, also an FA coach and an Inspector of Physical Education for the Inner London Education authority **(writes PAUL PARISH).**

The book is aimed at the 9–13 age group where, alas, schoolteacher interest is always at its lowest and where boys clubs are seldom in a position to use facilities needed for many of the exercises outlined by Cartwright and Gibbon.

There remains, however, much of relevance for all interested in improved standards and ideas for boys' football. But whether some bald statements—such as: "young boys cannot cope with the eleven-a-side game on a full-size pitch"—would meet with universal agreement is arguable.

Watch it, fellas, there's a special chapter aimed at the growing band of women soccer teachers, too.

To mark the Centenary of the Scottish Football Association, PAN are publishing **John Rafferty's One Hundred Years of Scottish Football (95p)**, a fascinating book which tells the enthralling, often dramatic story of Scotland's great football heritage and influence from 1873 to the present day.

The book is also illustrated with a superb collection of more than fifty historic photographs, and includes lists of the Presidents and Secretaries of the Scottish Football Association, and a complete tally of all Scotland's international matches together with the names of every player that took part.

Also now available, **Football—Tactics and Teamwork (EP Publishing Ltd., £1.50) by Charles Hughes.**

Bobby Moore:
'I feel certain it will be of great benefit to teachers and boys working at the important basic skills of the game'

FA News:
'Excellent . . . will be welcomed by schoolteachers, youth group leaders and parents (of both sexes) and particularly by those with no formal coaching qualifications. Well set out and clearly written'

Teaching Soccer to Boys

Alan Gibbon/John Cartwright

A marvellously imaginative and comprehensive handbook for teachers, parents and coaches. The lessons are geared to limited-area situations and are the outcome of courses given at several East London schools by ex-West Ham star and Senior FA Coach, John Cartwright, and FA Coach, Alan Gibbon.

Foreword by Phil Woosnam. 70 photographs and diagrams. Hardback £1.40, paperback 80p. From bookshops or from the publishers

6 Portugal St London WC2A 2HL

BELL

DRAGAN DZAJIC

the brilliant outside left of Red Star and Yugoslavia thinks of the time when his career is behind him

IT WAS my dream as a boy to play football in the Yugoslavian First Division and in the colours of Red Star. I was, even as a little boy, a great fan of Red Star, and every Monday I read the papers only because I wanted to see Red Star's result.

Now all my childhood dreams have come true. I am playing in the First Division; I play in the colours that I love. I have a very good life, as does every first-class sportsman in my country. I have a car—a Peugeot 404 and I think perhaps my second love is my car!

Spare time

I receive about fifty letters every day from my fans and many people would like to meet me. I must confess that I enjoy this "glory", but still the best moments of my life are immediately after a match when I get back to my two-roomed flat and, in my thoughts, I remember the match for myself. Very often it is then that I remember my family who still live in a small town called Ub, where I saw football for the first time and where I began to play with the ball—made, of course, from pieces of cloth.

In that time I was the star "player" of the street. . . Later, I spent every moment of my spare time at the stadium of the local club Jedinstvo Ub, and my football story began from that little stadium.

Selected

My elder brother was also a very keen footballer and one day, in the nearest town Valfevo, there was to be a big match with one of Valjevo's team playing the youth team of the famous Belgrade club, Red Star. Valjevo invited my brother to play for them in the match, but he would only agree to play if I was also selected. He was a real brother!

Valjevo agreed but included me only because of my brother and only, they said, until half-time wearing the number 11 shirt. Perhaps I am a player who, as you say in England, "rises to the occasion", at any rate, in this match I played so well in the first-half that I was kept on for the whole match and several big clubs became interested in me.

The first was Partizan, also of Belgrade, and I had almost finalised matters regarding my joining them but, at the last minute, thanks to my father, I refused to go. My father, like myself and all my family, supported Red Star and soon I was invited to join them.

First time

Everyone was enthusiastic and on November 4, 1963, at the age of seventeen, I played for the first time for Red Star in a Yugoslavian League match. From that time I have played in every one of their matches except when I have been injured . . .

Outside of football and my car, my hobbies are books and music. I like modern popular music and my favourite singer is Tom Jones, then Frank Sinatra and his daughter Nancy. I made a record myself with four songs on it—the song of the Red Star club and three Mexican songs. I received 1,000 dollars and I was told that about 50,000 copies of my record had been sold, but I do not think I will continue with this interest—It was my first and also my last record!

Short career

I was asked why I play football and, frankly, part of the answer is "for the money" because I do not know for how long I will play. I do not think that, like some of my older friends, I will be a trainer when I end my playing career, and therefore I have been studying at the university of foreign trade.

I fully realise that the career of a footballer is a short one and also that I cannot remain in top form for many years. Therefore I must think of some time starting work as a normal citizen and, although nobody can foretell the future, I do not think as a trainer. Meantime I think I must sell my football skill in the best way, like every professional footballer in the world.

A majority of players do not like to speak about this but I try to be frank in all situations. I remember that for every winning match the bonuses mean more money for me than a worker's monthly or weekly wage.

Yet I will have to start a new life at a time when other people will have the beginning of their life's career behind them. You must know that I—like the other professional footballers—give to football the best years of my life and that to be a first-class player means living only for football.

Enver Maric, the Yugoslavian goalkeeper.

Martin Tyler talks to TERRY VENABLES, Captain of Queen's Park Rangers

THIS TIME WE WILL STAY UP

JUST four years ago Queens Park Rangers ended their first season in the First Division. They collected just 18 points. They won just four matches. And they nose-dived back into Division Two, bottom of the table by 12 clear points!

In the summer that followed, with all its heart-searching and self-inquisition, Rangers took a large step towards recovering their lost pride. Terry Venables, once the mainspring of the precocious Chelsea side of the early sixties, was persuaded to cross town from White Hart Lane.

It was the right kind of infusion. As Rangers now stand on the threshold of a second opportunity to prove their worth in the best company, it is Venables' leadership on the field that has helped the club recover so rapidly from that disastrous season of 1968-69.

Venables' view of that year was simply that of a player with a rival club, but he is convinced that any sort of repetition can be avoided:

Top-flight

"At that time as a Spurs player I felt that the Rangers side was not quite good enough. I know when I came to the club in that summer, everyone felt that they had been unlucky. That they had lost a lot of games 1-0. But personally I didn't agree with that. I don't think you can be unlucky over such a long period.

"But I am confident that we have a much stronger side here now. When I came here, I only signed because I knew that Rangers were a club capable of First Division football. I could have stayed in the top-flight outside London, but I didn't really want to leave the area. And I felt Rangers had all the potential, even immediately after that poor season."

Indeed, in each season since their return to the Second Division, Rangers have shown sparks of promotion form, but never in sufficient quantities to really set the Division on fire. Not, that is, until this season. What has been the key to a run of such explosive form that has kept the West London side abreast with Burnley several points in front of the field?

"We're a much better all-round side now," thought Venables. "We've got good individuals in all departments. And the manager's welded this into a team. Having skilled players is so important. I know it's a team game and everything, but you must have good individuals in the side. A Fourth Division side might have tremendous team-work but this cannot really compensate for skill. Skill blended into team-work is the ideal and I think this is why we've done well."

Personally, the Rangers' skipper has been able to contribute more to the cause: "I missed the last three months of last season with this pelvic injury. And the lay-off gave me a terrific appetite for the game. I just could not wait to play again. And I have felt really fit this season."

Colleagues

With over 250 Division One games under his belt, he will be well placed to advise his less experienced colleagues on the problems that lie ahead: "In the First Division, the passing is better all round. So is the competitiveness. Division One teams are much better at fighting back if they get behind. Some teams in the Second Division fold up once you go a goal upon them."

Another lesson was painfully rubbed home at Derby County's Baseball Ground in the FA Cup fifth round this season. In a first half in which manager Gordon Jago felt that Derby could have scored at least six times, Rangers fell four behind. Both Jago and Venables will be quick to emphasise how much better First Division sides are at punishing defensive errors.

But there was another side to the Derby match. While the crowd must have been, with some justification, relishing the prospect of double figures, Rangers dominated the second half and Mick Leech and Don Givens halved the deficit. For the younger players it was an example to carry through to next season. Venables summed it up succinctly:

"We learned that we weren't out of company." Had Derby won, by five or six goals, who knows what scars the Rangers players would have carried with them into Division One . . . or indeed would the undermining effect have been sudden enough to end the promotion bid there and then?

"I don't think any of us really felt we could win at the start of the game. And it affected our play terribly. Just because they were a First Division side, we started thinking we'd got to be clever. Players would try something fancy, taking on two or three defenders, instead of giving the normal simple pass. But in the second half we got back on to our game and we got better and better. They were a bit worried at the end.

"I know people will say that they eased off second half, but I don't believe it."

Ambitious

Next season will be as much a test for their skipper as for the club. At 30, Venables is approaching the age where midfield players begin to look for a slot in the side then I don't really foresee any energies. He is too much of a realist to make any ambitious personal forecasts: "I'll just play and see. If I keep my place in the side then I don't really foresee any problems of re-adapting to First Division football. I haven't given it too much thought, because I have been so bound up with the job of helping us get up.

"But the old cliches you hear churned out — that 'it's great to be back', that 'it's fabulous to play on the big grounds again', that 'the First Division is the only place to play'—I suppose there's a lot of truth in all of them."

Undoubtedly, promotion has given Terry Venables' playing career a terrific boost. A sharp, alert man, his administrative skills show so clearly in his work for the PFA and his astute football brain mark him down as ideal manager material. Any thoughts in that direction will clearly be deferred now.

Nor are his talents confined to the game. His football novel, *They Used To Play On Grass*, which he co-wrote with Gordon Williams, has sold well. And much of his summer break will be spent collaborating with Mr. Williams on a second book, which, incidentally, does not have a sporting theme.

But top of the list must come the Queens Park Rangers' story in which he still has a large part to play. And unlike the version of 1968-69, this should be a tale with a happy ending.

LEEDS SHOULD GET THROUGH

HAJDUK Split are the oldest club in Yugoslavia. In fact, they celebrated their Diamond Jubilee in 1971 by winning the championship for the sixth time; a record bettered only by one club in the country Red Star Belgrade.

This season they are making progress in the European Cup Winners Cup—the hard way. After a relatively easy passage in the first round, which saw them record 1-0 wins both at home and away against the modest Norwegian opposition from Fredrikstad, they were drawn against Wrexham the Third Division club from North Wales.

Clearly worried about the stories they had heard of the triumphs of even non-league Welsh clubs previously in the competition like Bangor City and Borough United, the Yugoslavians were worried and justifiably, so it seems, when they crashed in the first leg 3-1. But they pulled back the arrears at home and went through on the away goals rule after winning 2-0.

Their next match was against Hibernian from Scotland and the prospects seemed no less helpful to them in this clash. The Scots had been riding high all season in contrast to Hajduk's own struggles in the lower reaches of the Yugoslavian First Division.

Again it looked black for the Split side when they were beaten 4-2 at Easter Road and their only consolation appeared to be the two goals they had managed away from home.

Yet again it proved decisive though eventually they beat a completely demoralised Hibs 3-0 in the second leg to go through on a 5-4 aggregate.

Their reward was a place in the semi-final against the formidable Leeds United the third team they have met from Great Britain this season.

The odds must now be shifting against them more and Yugoslavia may have to wait another season to get a team in the Cup Winners Cup final for the first time to make a hat-trick of finalists in the three European competitions.

Hajduk Split goalkeeper Radomir Vukcevic.

Marathon

Even so Hajduk can claim in their history to have had some magic moments. They first won the League title in 1927 and two years later won it again. In 1931 they undertook a marathon tour of South America staying out there for four months.

During the latter part of the war they formed the basis of the Army team which played Allied sides in aid of the Red Cross.

Then in 1950, when they recorded their third League championship title, they went through their League programme without losing a match—a feat never before or since equalled in the country.

Among the many famous players associated with the club were Vladimir Beara the international goalkeeper known as The Black Flash and Bernard Vukas a prolific goalscoring forward.

Appearance

These two were selected to play in the Rest of Europe team which drew 4-4 with England at Wembley in 1953 on the occasion of the 90th anniversary of the Football Association.

At outside left in the same team was another Yugoslavian, Branko Zebec who is now the team manager of Hajduk Split. A distinguished player he won 65 caps for his country and held the record until 1972 when Dragan Dzajic the Red Star Belgrade left winger beat his record at Wembley with his 66th appearance.

Zebec who at one time in his coaching career guided the fortunes of Bayern Munich in the Bundesliga, is hoping that history will not repeat itself as it did on the last occasion in the Cup Winners Cup.

Club Focus on HAJDUK SPLIT

by JACK ROLLIN

That was in 1967-68 season when they played Tottenham Hotspur in the competition and lost 2-0 at home in the first leg and despite a brave fight of it at White Hart Lane were beaten on aggregate 6-3.

This is by far their best season in Europe which in the past has seen them compete in all three of the major competitions. On the domestic scene the current campaign has been an unhappy one, and unless they can pull off a surprise against Leeds and go on to win the final they will not be competing in Europe in 1973-74 season.

After their League title win in 1971 Hajduk finished tenth in the table last season but did win the cup for the second time in their history by beating Dynamo Zagreb 2-1 in the final.

Unpaid

This term they have failed to make any real impression saving their best performances for the home legs of their European commitments.

Split itself is a not unpleasant town surrounded by volcanic hills and the club's compact ground holds little more than 25,000. Neighbouring rooftops can add to the attendance in an unpaid way of course.

Hajduk's willingness to attack and indeed the very nature of their situation after the first legs against Wrexham and Hibs made it essential for them to go for goals. They have a defence which can hand out plenty of stiff challenges when required and led in this by Drazen Muzinic at the heart of it.

Substitute

Undoubtedly the club's most famous current player is Dragan Holcer, who played at Wembley last year against England and made his 46th international appearance when he came on as a second half substitute.

Holcer knows all about troubles both on the field and off it. Now 28 he was born in a German concentration camp in 1945 and there are few alive today who can say that. It was Holcer who "swept up" convincingly when Yugoslavia beat England in the 1968 European Championship in Italy.

Although Peter Nadoveza started the season in useful scoring form in the League it has been Ivica Hlevnjak who has managed some vital goals in the European games.

Hlevnjak can play up front or in midfield and it was he who scored a penalty against Spurs in that brave away leg fight back at White Hart Lane five seasons ago.

Another useful forward is Jurica Jerkovic, a twenty-two year old full international with a dozen caps who, like most of the present side, has appeared in all three major European competitions in the last three seasons.

Full-back Miroslav Boskovic is a survivor from the 1967-68 team and has also played as a winger or midfield schemer. Ivan Baljan and wing-half Luka Peruzovic have also been drawing attention as have the left wing pairing of Micun Jovanic and the recently introduced winger Surjak.

Dragan Holcer, one of Hajduk Split's most famous players.

Criticised

Oddly enough one of the most criticised players in the team is goalkeeper Radomir Vukcevic, a thirty-one year old with ten full appearances for his country and a veteran performer for Hajduk.

The senior squad is completed by defenders Vilson Dzoni and Mario Boljat and winger Dinko Zutelija.

The local fans are fiercely patriotic about their own team and usually only favour players who are products of the environment. On the Torcida—Yugoslavian version of the "Kop"—they are critical as anywhere and wave their flags and explode the firecrackers as any decadent Western European ensemble.

Although Holcer is the last Hajduk player to play in a full Yugoslavian national team, they still talk about that day in 1924 when in Zagreb, Hajduk Split provided every single member of the side which played Czechoslovakia.

There was no happy ending to the story because Yugoslavia were beaten 2-0. But when you look closely at the result before it and the one immediately after it, there appears to be a happier sequence.

Both times Yugoslavia were beaten out of sight 7-0. And on such items Hajduk can still hope against Leeds United.

PLAYER EXODU
CLUB ATTEND A

Post-war survey . . . by Eric Batty

AUSTRIA

ONE of the first Continental countries to adopt football from Britain, the Austrians, quickly showed an aptitude for the game. By the 1920's interest had spread from the workers who first took up soccer as a pastime to embrace all classes. Without any aptitude for rugby or interest in cricket, football became the national sport and pervaded all classes. Clearly the Austrians, like their Czech and Hungarian neighbours, have a basic inherent aptitude for the game and though always based on part-time professionalism, it thrived.

The Austrian game reached its peak in the '30s when their "Wunderteam" was certainly the most skilful on the Continent and perhaps the best in the world. At this time the big clubs of Vienna dominated the scene with SC Rapid setting the pace.

Unlike other countries, many of the players at this time were drawn from the professions and the clubs' smallish grounds were filled ,to overflowing for the important league games.

Even First Vienna's Hohe Wart, with room for more than 50,000 but few seats, proved inadequate and plans were made for the construction by the city authorities for a modern stadium in the Prater Park.

Built at the end of the '30s, with a 90,000 capacity, the Prater Stadion has proved to be something of a white elephant. More seats were installed in recent years to attract the more sophisticated audience with their more demanding standards, but few games are played there and rarely is it filled to anything like capacity.

There was no sign in the early post-war years that the Austrian game was about to decline. In the '40s and early '50s the clubs prospered and the national side remained in the forefront of the European game. But with hindsight it is now clear that economic and social change was creating new conditions.

Simple explanation

All the stars of that era were either pre-war players or products of the war years and when that generation began to retire the writing was on the wall.

There is no simple explanation for the decline in the Austrian game though television and their meagre population are contributory factors. Where once the Wiener Wald teemed with talented young players, the specially gifted players have been reduced to a trickle.

Of this handful the ambition is to play abroad where rewards are higher and particularly West Germany and Switzerland where language is no barrier.

Offered a lower standard of play, the public became

		P	W	D	L	Goals F.A.	P
1945–46	SC Rapid	22	16	3	3	99.24	35
1946–47	SC Wacker (Vienna)	20	14	2	4	61.24	30
1947–48	SC Rapid	18	13	2	3	55.23	28
1948–49	FK Austria	18	13	1	4	65.27	27
1949–50	FK Austria	24	18	2	4	92.37	38
1950–51	SC Rapid	24	20	3	1	133.40	43
1951–52	SC Rapid	26	20	1	5	107.38	41
1952–53	FK Austria	26	21	3	2	106.38	45
1953–54	SC Rapid	26	18	5	3	96.43	41
1954–55	First Vienna	26	17	5	4	64.26	39
1955–56	SC Rapid	26	20	3	3	93.37	43
1956–57	SC Rapid	26	19	2	5	100.43	40
1957–58	Wiener Sport Klub	26	20	5	1	100.35	45
1958–59	Wiener Sport Klub	26	20	6	0	104.35	46
1959–60	SC Rapid	26	18	6	2	87.32	42
1960–61	FK Austria	26	17	5	4	68.31	39
1961–62	FK Austria	26	19	4	3	65.23	42
1962–63	FK Austria	26	17	4	5	60.26	38
1963–64	SC Rapid	26	19	5	2	69.27	43
1964–65	Linzer ASK	26	14	8	4	49.29	36
1965–66	Admira-Energie	26	18	7	1	51.17	43
1966–67	SC Rapid	26	20	1	5	72.29	41
1967–68	SC Rapid	26	21	2	3	75.24	44
1968–69	FK Austria	28	19	8	1	80.35	46
1969–70	FK Austria	30	19	7	4	63.31	45
1970–71	SC Wacker Innsbruck	30	20	4	6	68.30	44
1971–72	SC Wacker Innsbruck	28	15	9	4	49.20	39

FA CUP FINALS

SC Rapid	2	First Vienna	1
SC Wacker (Vienna)	4	FK Austria	3
FK Austria	2	Sturm Graz	0
FK Austria	5	Vorwarts Steyr	2
Not held			
Wiener AC	2	SC Rapid	0
FK Austria	4	SC Rapid	2
SC Rapid	3	First Vienna	1
FK Austria	4	Grazer AK	1
FK Austria	1	Linzer ASK	0
Admira-Energie	1	FK Austria	0
Linzer ASK	2	Wiener Neustadt	1
Admira-Energie	1	SC Rapid	0
Linzer ASK	2	FK Austria	1
SC Rapid	2	Grazer AK	0
SC Rapid	2	Wiener Sport Klub	1
SC Wacker Innsbruck	1	Linzer ASK	0
FK Austria	2	SC Rapid	1
SC Rapid	4	Wiener Sport Klub	3*

* Two legged final tie. Aggregate scores.

D US HITS D ANCES

disenchanted and this is the start of a vicious circle from which it seems there is no escape. When gate receipts declined the clubs were inevitably less able to pay their players salaries that were comparable to the money to be earned in other fields.

Other attractions

Full-time professionalism is out of the question, therefore, and Vienna, always the centre of the Austrian game, offers too many other attractions. It is also situated close to the frontiers of both Hungary and Czechoslovakia where football matches are regularly shown live on television.

Now the Austrian fans have a choice if they want to watch football. They can see it on TV live and in full in the comfort of their own home or they can pay to see a second-class product in old, uncomfortable grounds.

Impossible conditions

Vienna has suffered terribly with SC Wacker already gone into oblivion. First Vienna threatened for years and the *prestigioso* SC Rapid deep in debt after years of struggle in impossible conditions.

During the last few years provincial clubs have come to the fore with financial help from local industry. SC Wacker Innsbruck, Alpine Donawitz and the Linzer ASK have been amongst those to benefit most, but the overall standard of play has not improved.

For the long term, the clubs must live on their income from gate receipts yet pay their players sufficient to make a career in football attractive enough to persuade youngsters to dedicate themselves to it. Conditions are all against this and it is inevitable that the best players will continue to go abroad.

ABOVE . . . Sara, the full-back of the Austrian national team and FC Austria. BELOW . . . Koncilian of FC Wacker Innsbruck and Austria.

FA CUP VICTORIES

FK Austria	13	Linzer ASK	2
SC Rapid	8	SC Wacker Innsbruck	1
Admira-Energie	5	SC Wacker (Vienna)	1
First Vienna	3	Wiener Sport Klub	1
Wiener AC	3	W.A.F.	1

LEADING SCORERS

Horak (Wiener SK)	34
Hof (Wiener SK)	32
Cejka (Wiener AC)	28
Nemec (FK Austria)	31
Nemec (FK Austria)	21
Hof (Wiener SK)	21
Nemec (FK Austria)	22
Gayer (Wiener SK)	18
Kaltenbrunner (Admira)	17
Starek (SC Rapid)	20
Bjerregard (SC Rapid)	23
Kogelberger (FK Austria)	31
Kreuz (Admira)	21
Kreub (Admira)	26
Riedl (FK Austria)	16

LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SUCCESSES

SC Rapid	25
FK Austria	10
Admira-Energie	8
First Vienna	6
Wiener Sport Klub	3
SC Wacker Innsbruck	2
Linzer ASK	1
SC Wacker (Vienna)	1
Wiener AC	1
W.A.F.	1
F.A.C.	1
Hakoah	1

EUROPE

Swiss face uphill task in World Cup

SWITZERLAND

by ARTHUR ROTMIL

THIS is in many ways an important year for Swiss football. On the domestic scene the falling gates give cause for anxiety, whilst the domination of the principal competitions by just a few clubs can hardly help to sustain interest in other less successful centres. At international level the Swiss clubs have once again suffered a series of setbacks which ended their participation quite early. This leaves the national team, who are now facing tough preliminary World Cup matches and specifically the monumental challenge presented by the 1970 World Cup runners-up, Italy.

But while the Italians have very nearly completed their programme, the Swiss are just about to tackle their second match in this group. They were due to visit Luxembourg in mid-April, before entertaining Turkey at home on May 9. The ultimate qualifier may not be known until the Swiss travel to Italy on October 20, always provided that their other opponents are beaten comprehensively.

Long winter

But the chances, taking current form as a guide, must be rated pretty slim. To overcome the Italians, especially on their own ground, would be a task at present rather beyond the Swiss potential. In a training match at Brussels, against the local team Union St. Gilloise, strengthened by Anderlecht's famous international Paul Van Himst and a couple of Racing White players, the Swiss national side, weakened by the absence of Odermatt and Jeandupeux, were beaten by 3-0!

Of course, such games mean very little in terms of results. After all the match was played just a few days after the long winter pause had come to an end here. Some clubs undertook their customary journeys to warmer climates, among them the champions Basel who played a few games in Mexico. Winterthur visited Spain, but for most clubs it was a long break until March 4, when the battle for points resumed in earnest.

High ratio

Just a week later the League experienced a new negative record: In seven matches only eight goals were scored—10 out of the 14 teams had failed to score at all! And it would have been worse, had not the match Lugano v. Grenchen ended 3-2. This has never happened before in this country, which boasts a consistently high ratio of goals. The previous low was reached on November 1969, when only twelve goals were scored, also in seven games.

The weather didn't help the Swiss footballers even in mid-March, when heavy snowfalls caused the postponement of several matches. Basel continued serenely at the top and they should be even more dominant next season. In effect the club managed to secure the services of the famous Peruvian forward Teofilo Cubillas, who starred in the 1970 World Cup series in Mexico, where he hit five goals in four matches for his country.

The 24-year-old ace will cost Basel about £100,000 when his transfer, which has already been approved by the Peru F.A., is finalised next July. This exotic star will undoubtedly add colour to the Swiss scene and, it is hoped, to the gates! Whether he will fit into the scheme and the playing style of Basel, is of course quite another matter.

The managerial fraternity will also greet a new man, or rather an old friend returning to this land after service abroad. The German-born Kurt Linder (40), is taking over Young Boys of Berne as from July 1. Linder who played for Karlsruher SC, Young Boys, Urania Geneva, Rapid Vienna, Rotweiss Essen and Olympique Lyon, has recently fallen out with the French champions Olympique Marseille, with whom he will honour his contract till the end of the season. Previously he coached the VfB Gaggenau, Lausanne, Xerxes Rotterdam and PSV Eindhoven, before landing in Marseille.

Two-leg

The Cup semi-finals confirmed once again, that the two-leg method of deciding ties is unsatisfactory. Both favourites Basel and Zurich played first away from home and it was obvious that toward the end of the match the orders from the bench were: "Hold it, don't take any risks".

Zurich, who drew 1-1 at Winterthur, and Basel, 1-0 winners at Biel, employed understandable but nonetheless sterile tactics much to the disappointment of the fans. There were 10,000 at Biel and 12,700 in Winterthur who witnessed a type of game one regretfully has come to accept in some European Cup ties, when it is more important to play cautiously to get a "good result", with a view to square matters at home. Leading Swiss experts are now clamouring for the return to the traditional Cup k.o. system.

They point to their neighbours in Germany, now also disenchanted with the playing methods and gates, ever since the introduction of home-and-away ties. At the same time the FA Cup in England seems to be enjoying its usual boom.

Overcame

The favourites made no mistake in the return games, Basel beating Biel by 5-1, whilst Zurich had a rare fight on their hands but overcame Winterthur by 2-1, after extra time. Highlight of the match in Basel was a hat-trick by international winger Walter Balmer, who celebrated his 25th birthday on the same day! The scene is now set for the third Basel v. Zurich Cup final within the last three years!

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AFRICA

GAMES A SUCCESS

from Winsor Dobbin

DESPITE being hit by a ban on overseas teams competing in the 1973 S.A. Games soccer tournament, the competition played between Whites, Bantu, Coloureds and Indians was an unqualified success from all points of view.

Two early problems threatened to disrupt the soccer tourney but both were overcome and in the end no one could have hoped for a better spirit or higher standards of play. First of all the FIFA ban on overseas competing teams threatened to end the tournament before it began, but the Government gave its consent for the competition to be played between the four S.A. race groups.

Then just one week before the beginning of the games it was decided that soccer was to be moved from its original Pretoria venue to the 45,000 capacity Rand Stadium in Johannesburg. Although this proved to be a wise decision the organisers came in for much criticism for having made such a decision so late in the day.

In the actual competition, the Whites, as expected, proved too strong tactically for their non White opponents; although the Bantu displayed admirable ball skill on many occasions they were no match for the Whites but much too good for the Indians who finished up as wooden spoonists.

The Coloureds started slowly but gained in confidence to outplay the Bantu in one of their two clashes—one of the major surprises.

Many lessons were learnt by football administrators of all races during the games and all went home satisfied with their team's performances. Especially the three non white groups who proved that they can, with a little more coaching, soon be up to white standards.

Overseas

All the sides were, of course, amateur but despite not being fully representative —all the best players, white and non white, are professional—they still proved that standards have improved rapidly over the past few years, especially Bantu standards.

The most powerful side, the Whites contained many amateur First Division players and they played with such skill and pace that it may soon be unnecessary to import overseas stars. More and more S.A. whites are becoming great soccer players. Stars of the White side included Nicky Howe, the centre half of Highlands Park, the current League leaders and his team mate Errol Burg who scored five goals in the Whites' crushing 11-1 victory over the luckless Indians.

The Bantu side displayed the traditional flair that has always typified their play. They were let down though by their old failing—badly organised defence. For years now the Bantu League sides have had strong attacks and weak defences and even the defensive Mario Tuani who coached the Blacks could not iron out this old fault. The Bantu showed though that if their professionals were combined with White professionals the result would be a side that would be in world class. The combination of white defensive and tactical skill and Black attacking force would be a side of mind bending power.

The Indians and Coloureds are not yet in the class of the other two race groups. The Coloureds have improved rapidly but the Indians lacking in numbers and skill seem not to offer a really powerful challenge in the near future.

More than anything else the S.A. Games soccer tournament proved that men of all races, even in South Africa, can go onto a field and play good soccer without any trace of racial animosity. The multi-racial crowds were also impeccably behaved and these games will, we hope, pave the way for future multi-racial soccer matches and ultimately the path back into FIFA.

N.F.L. computer goes haywire

THE appearance of the N.F.L. fixture list produced numerous complaints from the clubs. The N.F.L. Computer appeared to go haywire with the result that Durban City go 14 days without a match and Port Elizabeth 16 days while Lusitano play two games in three days.

Durban City were very annoyed with the gap in between fixtures but Port Elizabeth City were delighted. The reason started so soon after the publication of the list that neither of the clubs was able to launch an effective protest. The reason for Port Elizabeth City's delight at the break is that the club picked up quite a sizeable sum of money for players from various sponsors, and as I write manager "Twiggy" Maxwell is in Britain looking for three or four experienced players and a "guest star" to play a few games during the British off season.

After four games P.E. are bottom of the log but Maxwell is far from despondent. He said recently: "We are not worried, while most of the other clubs have finished their buying sprees we have not started."

The only other club still active in the British market are Cape Town City, whose manager Roy Bailey (the former Ipswich goalkeeper) is also waiting to capture some English players. Despite a lack of new signings Cape Town opened the League with a maximum six points from their opening three games and could be surprise League challengers.

Maritzburg's new signing from Partick Thistle, Charlie Smith created an N.F.L. and, as far as we can trace, world record when he was sent off in two consecutive matches.

Smith told me the story; "I have never been sent off in my career before, but naturally after my experience I do not think S.A. referees are as good as those in Scotland. What happened was in the game against East London, I was sent off for swearing and received a one match suspension. I served this and then in the game against Highlands Park one of their players was giving me a hard time. Stupidly I retaliated and the referee had no choice but to send me off. I felt sick making that second lonely walk."

The affable Smith has happily now settled in, and is playing a big part in Maritzburg's revival. He is anxious not to be branded as a dirty player and admits with a grin: "I guess that I have the one world record I could do without." Smith has recently been joined at Maritzburg by his former Falkirk team mate Ian Lawrie.

The past month brought both good news and bad news for Durban City fans. Manager Budgie Byrne and Norman Elliott the Chairman had a dispute about the purchase of a certain player and while they debated whether to buy or not another club snapped the player up. Happily the dispute was quickly resolved but Budgie is ambitious and could soon be on his way to England. He was one of the applicants for the recent Crystal Palace vacancy. Other bad news was that Tony Coleman (ex Man City) is still unhappy at the club. Good news came in the form of forward Jurgen Sperlich from Hertha Berlin, and the news that Alan Gibzean is likely to join City at the end of the current British season.

Two players recently changed clubs for near internal record fees of R15,000.

● Continued on page 47

Onega signs for Independiente

COLOMBIA

AS usual, Colombia's was the first league championship to start in South America this year. It is a long season, with clubs meeting each other four times in two separate league championships, with the top two clubs of each then playing off for the season's title. The 1972 champions, Millionarios, of Bogotá, who actually won their title only in January, when the play-off finished, lead as the only club with four points after two games.

ARGENTINA

ARGENTINA were the second to kick off—also with a long season ahead, composed of the Metropolitan Championship (the professional First Division) and the National Championship in which winners of regional tournaments from all over the country take part as well.

Last season's "double" champions (Metropolitan and National), San Lorenzo, who added another cup to their haul during the summer when they won the now traditional Mar del Plata tournament, in which all the big clubs except River Plate took part, started on the right foot with a 3-1 win over First Division debutants, All Boys. San Lorenzo recuperated Pedro Gonzalez (who was transfered to Peru last season) and made one other signing — Ruben Diaz (Racing)—to strengthen their first team pool for the struggle ahead—which includes engagements in the "Libertadores" Cup.

Runners-up, River Plate, also in the "Libertadores" Cup, signed international defender Wolff (Racing), Di Meola (star forward of Colon, who were last season's revelation) and got their former star forward, Daniel Onega, back. "Libertadores" Cup holders, Independiente, made the most important capture in half Montero Castillo, the Uruguayan international who had been one of champions Nacional's mainstays, but their weak attack doesn't look any better than last year. Racing Club has the most changed line-up as a result of nine signings and a number of sales, but there have been no big money transfers—there being no "big money" around.

PERU

PERU's Defensor Lima, who failed to win the league title after topping the table for a time during the second half of the season, put 16 of their players up for sale and ended the contract of their Uruguayan coach, Roque Maspoli. The club is run by a trawler company which has had a bad year and expenditure on the team has had to be cut drastically.

On the other hand, newly promoted Atletico Chalaco, are building a strong team and have signed internationals, Julio Melendez, Nicolas Fuentes and Eloy Campos among others .

VENEZUELA

VENEZUELA'S Deportivo Canarias, one of four Caracas clubs, is likely to disband for financial reasons.

URUGUAY

URUGUAY'S tale of financial woe continues. The season of barely five months is not long enough to allow clubs to pay their way for the rest of the year.

Clubs continually owe their players wages—which leaves no incentive for players to try and reach the top, unless they can catch the eye of a foreign club and get transferred abroad. Even Nacional and Peñarol, who could generally make ends meet with tours, have had to sell off many of their stars and as a result their rating abroad has dropped.

Football Pools are seen as a saviour this season. They weren't started last season because clubs wanted a bigger share than they were promised, but this season they will be prepared to accept anything.

CHILE

CHILE'S big clubs from Santiago—Colo Colo, Universidad Catolica, Universidad de Chile—are talking of breaking away from the Central Football Association (Chile's FA) to form a Metropolitan League in which they would be joined by other clubs from the Chilean capital. The reasons are financial—to cut out unproductive fixtures against any provincial clubs.

PERU AND CHILE —STRAIGHT FIGHT

AS you read this, World Cup Preliminary Group 3 (South America) should be almost finished, but it will not be because the first four games scheduled will not have been played as, at press time, the rift between the Venezuelan Football Federation and the National Sports Institute was keeping that country out of international football.

Whatever happens with Venezuela, where soccer is still, so to speak, in its infancy, they can not be considered as serious candidates, so it's a straight fight between Peru and Chile in this group, the winner of which has to play the winner of the USSR-France-Eire group for a place in the finals. And all the odds are in favour of a "one-horse" race as Peru, apart from their superior record, have been preparing much better.

The Chilean FA went to the trouble of engaging a German coach, Rudy Gutendorf (who recently resigned) to prepare their World Cup squad, but that is about as far as it went. Last year Chile won only two of six internationals played and these were against Iran and Ireland (both by 2-1 in Brazil's Independence Cup).

At the end of last year, Gutendorf picked his squad, including only five players who had taken part in the previous World Cup games (when Chile was second to Uruguay). Many of the stalwarts of that team (Quintano, Reinoso, Hodge, Castro, Araya, Villalba, Figuerosa) had been transferred to foreign clubs, mostly in Mexico. Desperate to strengthen its inexperienced team, the Chilean FA has asked the clubs to release them for the World Cup, but without success so far.

Worse still is that Chile's own clubs are reluctant to help. Colo-Colo (champions) and Union Española (vice-champions), whose players make up a good part of the national squad, would not release their men while preparing and now participating in the South American Club Championship, the "Libertadores" Cup.

Curioni opens the score for Boca Juniors in the classic versus River Plate which opened the Argentine First Division league programme. River Plate went on to win 2–1.

SOUTH AMERICAN ROUND-UP

by ERIC WEIL

Wilsterman shock

SURPRISE of the first round games of the "Libertadores" Cup so far were wins by the Bolivian champions, Jorge Wilsterman, over the fancied Argentina teams, San Lorenzo and River Plate, in Group 1. The Bolivians were not expected to win, even at home, and with Argentina's representatives weakened by international calls. However, both San Lorenzo and River Plate played defensively for a draw (quite unnecessarily in the eyes of most critics) and paid the penalty with 1-0 defeats.

Jorge Wilsterman must still play the two Argentina teams—who will be strengthened by the return of their internations—in Buenos Aires and although the odds are heavily in favour of San Lorenzo and River Plate, the Bolivian champions are in a position where a draw should get them into the semi-finals for the first time.

In Group 2 games have been close and the final decision is likely to be closer as the Brazilians, Palmeiras and Botafogo, are in only a very slightly better position after having played home games. The point Nacional got against leaders Palmeiras, at San Paulo, in a 1-1 draw, may yet be of vital importance. Palmeira were the better team without doubt, but Nacional's Brazilian goalkeeper, Manga, stopped his countrymen from getting both points.

In the only other group which had properly got under way at press-time (Group 5), the Paraguayan champions, Cerro Porteño, are firm favourites.

PLACINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Group 1							
Jorge Wilsterman (Bolivia)	2	2	0	0	2	0	4
San Lorenzo (Argentina)	2	1	0	1	2	1	2
River Plate (Argentina)	2	1	0	1	3	2	2
Oriente Petrolero (Bolivia)	2	0	0	2	1	5	0
Group 2							
Palmeiras de S. Paulo (Brazil)	3	2	1	0	6	3	5
Nacional (Uruguay)	3	1	1	1	5	4	3
Botafogo de Rio (Brazil)	2	1	0	1	5	5	2
Penarol (Uruguay)	2	0	0	2	0	4	0
Group 5							
Cerro Porteno (Paraguay)	3	2	1	0	7	3	5
Sporting Cristal (Peru)	3	1	2	0	4	3	4
Universitario (Peru)	3	1	1	1	4	5	3
Olimpia (Paraguay)	3	0	0	3	3	7	0

(Full results, teams and scorers published on page 47.)

A proposed tour of Europe and Africa, scheduled for early this year, has fallen through partly because of this and a depleted nationa lsquad now has to make do with practice games against Argentine clubs. These games have proved negoative from all angles. Added to this is the threat of a split in Chilean soccer also (reported elsewhere).

Chile's present squad is Olivares (*), Nef ()*, Osben, Enoch, Paez, Moises, Silva, Valdez (*), Veliz (*), Cortazar, Messen, Gonzalez, Pizarro, Lara, Aranguiz, Pinochet, Socias, Galindo, Machuca, Colis, Arias, Farias, Carvallo, Azocar, Caszelly (*). (Previous World Cup players are marked *.)

The Peruvian FA has done things differently. A squad of players was chosen early last year and a lot of international games have been played since then (including a tour of Europe). Although many of these players were wanted by foreign clubs, the Peruvian Government passed a law which made all "possibles" for World Cup duty "national property", which prohibited their transfer to foreign clubs.

Hungarian coach Lajos Baroti was engaged last year, but Peru's European tour was not a success as far as results were concerned, while a 3 won, 1 drawn, 3 lost record in games played on the South American continent (including Brazil's Independence Cup) was not deemed satisfactory either. Baroti was replaced by Uruguayan coach Roberto Scarone, who has Brazilian Claudio Coutinho as his aide in charge of physical fitness. Coutinho did the same job with the Brazilian team which won the World Cup at Mexico.

The squad, whose members are not allowed to play for their clubs, even in such an important prestige tournament as the "Libertadores" Cup, includes eight players who were in Peru's team at Mexico in 1970. Others have been replaced by a wealth of new talent coming up, but in goal they may finally rely on Argentinian Humberto Ballesteros.

Peru's present squad is:

Goal: C. Burella (Defensor Lima), O. Sartor (José Galvez). Backs: P. Gonzalez Zavala (Defensor Lima), J. Navarro (Municipal), L. La Fuente (José Galvez), R. Manzo (Defensor Lima), H. Chumpitaz (Universitario), O. La Torre (Sporting Cristal), J. Luna (Universitario), R. Risco (Alianza). Halves: M. Mayorga (Alianza), L. Jimenez (Municipal), J. Fernandez (Defendsor Lima), A. Quesada (Sporting Cristal), A. Palacios (Sporting Cristal). Forwards: J. Muñante (Universitario), J. Barbadillo (Defensor Lima), P. Rojas (Universitario), H. Sotil (Municipal), T. Cubillas (Alianza), O. Ramirez (Universitario), J. Oblitas (Universitario).

USA

NSAL OPENS THIS MONTH

ON Saturday May 5 the North American Soccer League will open its 1973 schedule on perhaps its soundest base in its seven-year history. Opening day sees Toronto playing at Dallas, Montreal at Miami and newcomers Philadelphia taking the field at St Louis.

The new nine team league—the largest since the 17-team league of 1968—has now gained immeasureably in experience since its earlier days and along with the growth of the game at the minor levels must now have its best ever chance of establishing itself as a permanent member of the major North American sports scene.

Originally divorced from the general soccer scene, the NASL has made concerted efforts over the past three years to avail itself of the knowledge of the best soccer people in the United States and Canada while enlisting their aid in setting up farm teams.

Nowhere is this more in evidence than in St Louis where the Stars organisation has linked itself to the highly organised Catholic Youth Organisation which has been responsible for St Louis producing so many fine American players.

The Toronto Metros, sitting in the middle of one of the finest minor soccer areas in all of North America, have made a concerted effort during the winter to tie into the local scene, and this year they will enter teams in the Junior B (16-18 years of age) and the Bantam (14-16 years of age) categories of the Ontario Minor Soccer Associations Ontario Division. Meanwhile the Armourdale Soccer Club, an amateur club in Toronto has agreed to affiliate its new under 23 team with the Metros.

Unique

Experienced people on the Ontario minor scene such as Gordon Barry, Colin MacKay, John Gray, Milt Lomax, Pat Quinn and Ted Coombs are involved in this project which Jack Daley the General Manager of the Metros feels "Is the makings of a farm system that is unique in Canadian soccer."

The Metros have also reached a working agreement with Toronto Emerald, an amateur club playing in the Premier Division of the 94 team Toronto and District League. The purpose of this agreement reached by Daley and Pat Ellis managing director of Emerald, is to focus attention on the development of Canadian players, and in fact to provide the complete link from the Bantam team up through to the professional team.

Signing

Further along the lines of the Metros Canadianisation policy they have announced the signing of Canadian international Joe Schiraldi from Hamilton Italio-Canadians and two Canadian Youth internationals Peter Roe and Jim McDonald. We can also look for similar signings from the other Canadian NASL club the Montreal Olympic in the coming weeks as coach Graham Adams persues his search for talent in the Montreal area.

International Chris Horrocks seems almost certain to sign while Robert Judd, Jim Corsi and Bruce McClements from the successful Quebec Youth team which won this years Canadian championship will undoubtedly be on Adams short list. McClements also turned in some excellent performances for the Canadian Youth team in the CONCACAF championship in Mexico.

Down in Miami the Toros are considering entering a team in the South Florida League in which the best local talent could be developed. Meanwhile the Toros have acquired the talented United States Olympic team player Mike Seerey in the NASL draft and General Manager Norm Sutherland and coach John Young have had talks in Manchester with Tommy Docherty about obtaining Denis Law on loan for the NASL season.

In other NASL news former Burnley player Ken Bracewell will coach the new Atlanta franchise, the New York Cosmos have obtained the rights to U.S. Olympic goalkeeper Shep Messing from Montreal, Al Miller coach of Hartwick College in New York has been named coach of the new Philadelphia franchise thus establishing another in the growing links between the NASL and the college game.

FRESH APPROACH

THE American Soccer League, the oldest professional soccer league in the United States which dates back to 1933, has been making considerable progress in the past year with a reorganised and redesigned structure. New teams have been added and a more professional approach adopted that is so vital in the highly competative world of U.S. sport.

In a new release issued on behalf of the league recently it is stated that "The Sunday afternoon picnic approach to the game, pitting one ethnic background against another, is gone. More and more American born athletes are becoming involved, the American business approach to the game is requiring a never before utilized discipline factor in the organisation of the various clubs."

This year the ASL welcomes three new franchises, making a membership of 16 in all. These teams will be divided into three divisions of equal stature and the tentative line up will be—Midwest Conference—Cincinnati Comets, Cleveland Stars, Detroit Mustangs, St Louis Frogs, Pittsburgh Canons and the Indian Tigers. Northeast Conference—New York Greeks, Boston Astros, Syracuse Suns, Connecticut Wildcats and Nor'East United. Mid-Atlantic Conference — Delaware Wings, Baltimore Stars, Washington Cavaliers, Philadelphia Spartans and Schaefer Brewers.

Canada to host youth tourney

CANADA will host the 1974 CONCACAF Junior Football Tournament it was announced at the CONCACAF conference held recently in Mexico City. This will be the fifth junior championship and will be played in eastern Canada probably in Toronto or Montreal at the request of the member nations.

The choice of Canada is yet another indication of Canada's growing stature in CONCACAF, and the games will probably be played in the late summer months with the severe Canadian winter ruling out soccer being played at the same time as this years tournament staged in Mexico in February.

This year's tournament, reduced from 14 to 6 teams due to the shift in venue and date caused by the disasterous earthquake in Nicaragua, saw a Canadian team entered for the first time, and although they lost three of the four games they played and drew one their performances against the more experienced nations of Latin America were most encouraging especially seeing that they came in the Canadian off season when most of the players had not played competitively for three months.

EUROPE

HOLLAND

by JOHN SPARROW

VAN DER HART —NO TWO!

A VIENNESE waltz perhaps? Or nearer the truth, maybe a Dutch reel. The point being that the 1-0 defeat of Holland was more a reflection of the visitors' shortcomings than host Austria's footballing attributes.

If one wishes to be fair (literally translated: to seek an excuse) the orange shirts sorely missed injured Johan Cruyff and Johan Neeskens. Yet I doubt if the thought is any comfort to the new-look management announced a couple of weeks earlier.

Dr Frantisek Fadrhonc, the often much maligned *bondscoach*, has been given a No. 2—Cor pan der Hart, the ex-international centre-half and present trainer of premier division club AZ'67 of Alkmaar.

The competent Dr Fadrhonc seems well pleased with his new assistant for van der Hart is a very able man who took AZ back to the top division in just one season. But, hesitant to read too much into a situation, one cannot but ponder on conjecture that there is a bit more to the appointment than that.

Two salient facts account for an hypothesis that perhaps we are witnessing the arrival of a successor to Fadrhonc following the final rounds of the World Cup in Germany. For (1) the van der Hart contract runs one year longer than Fadrhonc's, and (2) van der Hart is nobody's No. 2 by character.

Right man?

Of course, there was much humming and ha-ing before Fadrhonc was given a new term with the national squad a year ago. Was he the right man to take Holland through the World Cup, critics asked. A majority of the Koninklijke Nederlandse Voetbalbond found he was and extended his contract till after the Munich final.

For me the reply of van der Hart when questioned on the length of his contract was significant. "When the World Cup ends the European Championships are on us," he said. "The KNVB has taken this into account." And will Dr Fadrhonc be around for them too? Van der Hart: "I don't know what will happen to him. It is none of my business.

One more point must be mentioned. Among those asked if they wished to be considered for the No. 2 job, was Kees Rijvers, the PSV Eindhoven trainer. Rijvers is quite rightly one of the most respected trainers in the Netherlands . . . and he was the hot favourite to succeed Fadrhonc in last year's controversy.

So much for conjecture. Fadrhonc's comment on the KNVB choice was optimistic for Dutch chances in the World Cup campaign. "They still call me the boss," he said, "but we will reach our goal together. And that goal is the end round of the World Cup in Germany. Cor van der Hart is a hard man and that combined with my principles forms in my view the right combination. I don't think we'll have any problems working together."

Cor van der Hart's golden rule has always been: Be the boss. So how, he was asked at a press conference, could he fit in as No. 2? He replied: "I realise after seven years on my own I now have to work in co-operation with someone else. And that is why my decision came only after talking to Fadrhonc. Co-operation for us means each man to his own specified task."

Is he to be the hard man to Fadrhonc's fatherly role? He hoped he would not be seen as the toughie, but added: "Everyone must realise what the trainer has to do."

A final word came from the players, Frantisek Fadrhonc followers to a man. Said Cruyff: "To me Fadrhonc is the boss. There's only one coach." And Rinus Israel, fighting to regain form and a national team place: "I don't understand it. If Fadrhonc couldn't handle the job anymore I'd say okay. I can't see any work for a second man. After all we only play half a dozen games a season."

In the wake of the van der Hart move (his two-year contract takes effect on July 1) a number of other clubs will begin next season with a new trainer. To AZ'67 goes 36-year-old Joop Brand, the Haarlem trainer, and to Haarlem goes Go Ahead Eagles' Barry Hughes. As a consequence of Hughes moving over, the Haarlem No. 2, Eelman, is quitting. He says he doesn't want to work under the Englishman.

The 1972-73 season has seen quite a turn around on the trainer list. Before van der Hart we had George Knobel leaving MVV for Ajax and finally came the news that Ernst Happel and Feyenoord had agreed to part.

Happel—with the Rotterdam club for four years in which he took them to the European Cup and the so-called World Cup for clubs—is followed by Wiel Coerver of NEC. Coerver (47) is no stranger to Rotterdam having previously spent a three-season spell with Sparta.

A near-miss for Bayern Munich during the first leg of their European Cup tie against Ajax.

ASIA

ANDREW DETTRE reports from Sydney

AUSTRALIA TAKES FIRST STEP TO FINALS

AUSTRALIA has taken the first steps towards qualifying for the 1974 World Cup finals . . . even though these steps at times appeared somewhat hesitant, if not outright stumbling. Facing a most modest opposition from Iraq, Indonesia and New Zealand, the Australians could not make sure of their tournament victory until the very last match when they whitewashed a physically fragile Indonesia that looked like a high school reserve team in comparison.

Reason for the Aussie huffing and puffing was two astonishing drawn matches against New Zealand, surely among the very weakest of all FIFA countries. In the first game, played in Auckland, an out of touch Australia decided to forget about its superior skill and mixed it instead with the tall, tough Kiwis. The result: a surprise 1-1 draw with Australia equalising only minutes from the end.

In the second match, no excuses can be offered. Played in Sydney, the Aussies galloped to a commanding 3-1 lead at halftime and appeared to be on the way towards their pledge to make resounding amends against the upstarts. However, the easy lead lulled them into complacency and in the end, the Kiwis, much to their own surprise, equalised to make it a shock 3-3.

Coached

Meantime, Iraq, having lost their first game to an impressive Australia 1-3, kept collecting points, two from New Zealand and one from Indonesia. Even half way through the tournament it looked certain that the issue will be between the home side and the Irakis, capable of some very fine displays, coached by former Hungarian international Gyula Teleki.

In their last three matches Iraq collected five valuable points: first by holding Australia to a 0-0 draw, then by beating Indonesia 3-2 and finally by knocking out New Zealand to the tune of 4-0. It was getting close. So close, in fact, that had Australia dropped a point to Indonesia in their last match (and in the first round they beat them only 2-1), Iraq would have won the tourney on superior goal difference.

However, Australia came good, winning 6-0 and hitting the woodwork three times as well as missing about four sitters. That win gave them the series despite some lacklustre performances that failed to excite the majority of their fans.

Many critics have claimed that Australia would not have survived against tougher opposition; not with their current team, anyway. Indonesia, possibly the smallest and physically weakest team in Asia, have no hope against any team playing European football; their individual skill and natural flair is just not enough.

New Zealand, if one wants to be kind to them, would come in the first 10 in a pick-up tournament at Hackney Marsh. With the bulk of their players former Scottish and English amateurs or, at best, non-League players, they lack any polish, technical skill, finesse or tactical concept of what good soccer is all about. With them it's still the good old kick-and-rush, in any direction; all their players need plenty of room and time to control a ball, to make a pass or to take one.

Australia's two draws against them will certainly not improve our worldwide image . . .

As for Iraq, I though they came closest to a European-styled team; moving off the ball, running into position, interchanging intelligently, showing fine control—but usually failing in front of goal were their characteristics.

Pitches

Iraq, of course, were labouring under an enormous handicap: to most of their players this was the first time that they played on grass. Said Teleki with a Continental shrug: "I had to buy them proper boots in Sydney; at home, on their sand pitches in the Baghdad heat, they only wear gym boots. So what do you expect from them?"

What surprised and annoyed many local critics was that Australia made such heavy weather of their ultimate win. Three draws out of six matches against this class of opposition doesn't augur terribly well for our World Cup hopes.

Obsession

In the last few years, Australia has tended to place too much emphasis on physical attributes: strength against the Asians has become an obsession. And when sheer strength isn't enough, the team lacks sufficient skill to change its style and pace.

Today's Australian team is a far cry from the side that almost got us to Mexico in 1969. National coach Rale Rasic has a Ramsey streak in his make-up: he prefers the fearless, tall, tough labourers to the more creative but less "physical" artists.

To draw a parallel: he would always opt for a Hunt rather than an Osgood, a Stiles instead of a Blanchflower. Not that Australia has so many Osgoods; but those that come close to his style, are more apt to be overlooked than some battering rams who make the team with the sole and publicly expressed purpose of "softening up" the defence.

One fears that with this kind of gladiators instead of players in the true sense of the word, Rasic will ultimately fail.

There is always hope, of course, that the recent series has finally convinced him of the futility of wrestling our way to some standing in world football. The next World Cup assignment is not due until about August when Australia will have to play the winner of the other subgroup, made up of Iran, Syria, Kuwait and North Korea (to be played in Teheran in May).

Should we clear even that hurdle, we would come up against the winner of the large Asia "A" group, due to be played soon in Seoul with Israel the hot favourites. And Israel, in case people in the antipodes want to be optimistic, have recently drawn with the same Argentina that beat West Germany in Munich . . .

While Australian soccer is not naturally rich in talent, we do have some players, constantly overlooked, who could add more flair, colour and imagination to our pedestrian team. This is our only hope; this is Rasic's only option if Australia is to stand a chance of progressing further on this thorny road to the 1974 finals.

WM 74

New Zealand (0) 1 (Turner)
Australia (0) 1 (Campbell)

New Zealand: Curtin, Tillotson, Armstrong (R), Staines, Latimour, Turner, Vest, Tindall (Armstrong, B), Taylor, Marley (Brand), Bland.

Australia: Corry; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Hogg, Richards, Baartz, Warren (Abonyi), Alston, Tolson (Campbell), Buljevic.

Played in Auckland, attendance 12,000.

Indonesia (1) 1 (Panggabean)
New Zealand (0) 1 (Vest)

Indonesia: Pasla, Juswardi, Sunarto, Udjang, Widodo, Rizal (Waskito), Beori (Asmara), Panggabean, Iswadi, Sihasale, Kadir.

New Zealand: Morris, Tillotson, Latimour, Staines, Armstrong (R), Turner, Ferguson, (Tindall), Randles, Taylor, Brand, Marley.

Played in Sydney, attendance 28,500.

Australia (0) 3 (Richards, Alston 2)
Iraq (0) 1 (Nuri)

Australia: Corry, Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Hogg, Richards, Mackay, Baartz, Alston, Rooney, Campbell (Buljevic).

Iraq: J. Rahman, M. Fartus, A. Kadum, D. Aziz, S. Kasal, S. Yousif, R. Nuri, A. Yousif (B. Rashid), S. Hattem (R. Ahmed), S. Ubid, Ali Kadum.

Played in Sydney, attendance 28,500.

Iraq (2) 2 (B. Rashid, S. Hattem)
New Zeuland (0) 0

Iraq: S. Khalaf, A. Ali, M. Fartus, A. Hamid, R. Karem, D. Aziz, R. Nuri (S. Yousif), S. Ubid, S. Hattem, R. Ahmed, B. Rashid.

New Zealand: Curtin, Lake, Latimour, Staines, Sibley, Tindall (Hardman), Randles, Turner, Taylor (Bland), Vest, Marley.

Played in Sydney, attendance 12,700.

Australia (2) 2 (Campbell, Alston)
Indonesia (1) 1 (Iswadi)

Australia: Corry, Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Hogg, Richards, Mackay, Baartz, Alston, Rooney (Buljevic), Campbell (Abonyi).

Indonesia: Pasla, Juswardi, Sunarto, Udjang, Widodo, Rizal, Pattinasarany, Panggabean (Waskito), Iswadi (Asmara), Sihasale, Kadir.

Played in Sydney, attendance 12,700.

Iraq (1) 1 (A. Kadum)
Indonesia (1) 1 (Iswadi)

Iraq: K. Sattar, M. Fartus, D. Aziz, K. Hamed, R. Karem, S. Yousif, R. Nuri, B. Rashid, A. Yousif, A. Ahmed Razak, Ali Kadum.

Indonesia: Pasla, Hardarah, Udjang, Widodo, Halim, Panggabean, Pattinasarany (Asmara), Sihasale, Iswadi (Rizal), Waskito, Timisela.

Played in Sydney, attendance 14,000.

Australia (3) 3 (Utjesenovic, Baartz, Buljevic)
New Zealand (1) 3 (Vest, Tindall, Hogg og)

Australia: Corry, Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Hogg, Richards, Mackay, Baartz, Alston, Rooney, Buljevic.

New Zealand: Curtin, Tillotson, Latimour, Staines, Armstrong (R), Turner, Randles, Tindall, Vest, Taylor (Davis), Hardman (Sibley).

Played in Sydney attendance 14,000.

Indonesia (1) 0 (Tillotson og)
New Zealand (0) 0

Indonesia: Pasla, Juswardi, Sunarto, Anwar, Udjang, Widodo, Panggabean, Pattinasarany, Sihasale, Timisela, Waskito, Iswadi, Kadir.

New Zealand: Morris, Tillotson, Armstrong (R), Armstrong (B), Staines, Turner, Randles, Hardman (Brand), Taylor (Bland), Vest, Tindall.

Played in Melbourne, attendance 11,000.

Australia (0) 0
Iraq (0) 0

Ray Richards, Australia's star player in the recent World Cup qualifiying tournament, after scoring one of his goals, takes the adulation of his colleagues literally lying down.

Australia: Fraser, Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Hogg, Richards, Mackay, Baartz, Alston, Tolson (Rooney), Buljevic (Abonyi).

Iraq: S. Khalaf, M. Fartus, Abid Kadum, A. Hamid, R. Karem, D. Aziz, R. Nuri (S. Yousif), B. Rashid, A. R. Ahmed, S. Hattem (Ali Kadum), S. Ubid.

Played in Melbourne, attendance 11,000.

Iraq: (2) 3 (Aziz, Ubid, Hattem)
Indonesia (1) 2 (Panggabean, Asmara)

Iraq: S. Khalaf, M. Fartus, Abid Kadum, A. Hamid, R. Karem, D. Aziz, R. Nuri, S. Ubid (sent off), S. Hattem, A. R. Ahmed, Ali Kadum (A. Yousif).

Indonesia: Pasla, Juswardi, Hardarah, Udjang, (Bahalwan), Widodo, Pattinasarany, Panggabean, Iswadi, Sihasale, Waskito, Kadir (Asmara).

Played in Sydney, attendance 2,600.

Iraq: (3) 4 (Hattem 3, Ali Kadum)
New Zealand (0) 0

Iraq: S. Khalaf, M. Fartus, Abid Kadum, K. Hamed, A. Khalil, D. Aziz, R. Nuri, B. Rashid (S. Yousif), S. Hattem, Ali Kadum, A. Ahmed (S. Ubid).

New Zealand: Curtin, Lake, Latimour, Armstrong (B), Sibley, Armstrong (R), Vest, Tillotson, Taylor (Brand), Staines, Bland.

Played in Sydney, attendance 13,000.

Australia (3) 6 (Mackay 2, Abonyi 2, 1 pen, Richards, Baartz)
Indonesia (0) 0

Australia: Fraser, Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Hogg, Richards, Mackay, Baartz, Abonyi, Alston, Buljevic (Tolson).

Indonesia: Pasla (Hadiyanto), Sunarto, Udjang, Halim, Widodo (Hardarah), Panggabean, Timisela, Asmara, Rizal, Waskito, Sihasale.

Played in Sydney, attendance 13,000.

FINAL TABLE:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Australia	6	3	3	0	15	6	9
2. Iraq	6	3	2	1	11	6	8
3. Indonesia	6	1	2	3	6	13	4
4. New Zealand	6	0	3	3	5	12	3

WORLD CUP

MARCH 28

Northern Ireland (1) 1 (O'Neill)
Portugal (0) 1 (Eusebio pen)

Northern Ireland: Jennings; O'Kane, Nelson, Neill, Hunter, Clements, Hamilton, Coyle, Morgan, Dickson, O'Neill.

Portugal: Jose Henrique; Artur, Alhinho, Freitas, Adolfo, Matine, Nene, Eusebio, Pavao (Dinis), Abel, Simoes.

● Continued from page 41

Bobby Viljoen, probably the best striker in South Africa, joined Durban Utd from Rangers for this fee, as did Carlos Grassini, who moved from Berea Park to newly promoted Lusitano. Grassini was badly injured in his debut for Lusitano after a bad tackle by Rhodesian World Cup star Hylton Granger. The game against his previous club, Berea Park was a rough one, but fortunately Grassini's injury was not as bad as previously thought and he will only be out for about three weeks, much to manager Eddie Lewis's relief.

Lewis has done a great job with Lusitano, the newly promoted side have done well and with youngsters like Manuel Pinheiro could as Lewis said to me recently: "Become the new leaders in two seasons, I would not be surprised to see us overtake Hellenic as the leading club in S.A. within that period." The former Manchester Utd star is not talking through his hat, Lusitano have reawakened the interest of Johannesburg soccer fans, and they are drawing gates of around 12,000 (large by Transvaal standards).

Bobby Tambling is taking a long time to settle in with Durban Celtic, whom he joined last month (not Durban City as erroneously reported in another English publication). This club await with interest the arrival of Barry Fairbrother who is scoring goals regularly for Orient.

Pretoria clubs are having a bad time so far; Arcadia are second to last and player-manager Kai Johansen, (ex Glasgow Rangers) was recently sent off at Hartlevale against Cape Town City. Local rivals Berea Park recently dropped manager, yes manager Bobby Houghton for the game against Durban City. Director Ozzie Smalley took over team selection but the side lost 6-0 and Houghton was rapidly reinstated.

The two clubs doing best at the moment are Highlands Park with nine points out of a possible ten, and already looking potential champions, and East London who after losing to Durban Utd 10-0 in their opening league match haven't lost since and have an unbeaten home record in all competitions, being the first side to take a point off Highlands. What a funny game soccer is.

WM 74

Results...dates...tables...res

AFRICA

First preliminary round

Group 1

19.11.72 Morocco 0, Senegal 0
3.12.72 Senegal 1, Morocco 2

Group 2

2. 3.72 Algeria 1, Guinea 0
12. 3.72 Guinea 5, Algeria 1

Second Preliminary Round

Guinea 1, Morocco 1
Morocco 2, Guinea 0

Group 3

8.12.72 AR Egypt 2, Tunisia 1
17.12.72 Tunisia 2, AR Egypt 0

Group 4

15.10.72 Sierra Leone 0, Ivory Coast 1
29.10.72 Ivory Coast 2, Sierra Leone 0

Second Preliminary Round

Tunisia 1, Ivory Coast 1
Ivory Coast 2, Tunisia 1

Group 5

16. 7.72 Kenya 2, Sudan 0
23. 7.72 Sudan 1, Kenya 0

Group 6

Mauritius v. Madagascar
Madagascar v. Mauritius
Madagascar withdrew

Second Preliminary Round

Kenya 3, Mauritius 1
Mauritius 2, Kenya 2

Group 7

25.11.72 Ethiopia 0, Tanzania 0
3.12.72 Tanzania 1, Ethiopia 1
Play-off Ethiopia 3, Tanzania 0

Group 8

30. 4.72 Lesotho 0, Zambia 0
4. 6.72 Zambia 6, Lesotho 1

Second Preliminary Round

1. 4.73 Ethiopia 0, Zambia 0
15. 4.73 Zambia v. Ethiopia

Group 9

5. 8.72 Nigeria 2, Congo Brazza. 1
15. 8.72 Congo Brazza. 1, Nigeria 1

Group 10

18. 6.72 Dahomey 0, Ghana 5
2. 7.72 Ghana 5, Dahomey 1

Second Preliminary Round

Nigeria 2, Ghana 3
Ghana 1, Nigeria 1

Group 11

6. 6.72 Togo 0, Zaire 0
20. 6.72 Zaire 4, Togo 0

Group 12

Cameroons v. Gabon
Gabon v. Cameroons
Gabon withdrew

Second Preliminary Round

10.12.72. Mauritius 1, Kenya 3
17.12.72. Kenya 2, Mauritius 2
4. 2.73. Cameroon 0, Zaire 1
25. 2.73. Zaire 0, Cameroon 1
27. 2.73. Zaire 2, Cameroon 0

CONCACAF

First preliminary round

Group 1

20. 8.72 Canada 3, USA 2
24. 8.72 Canada 0, Mexico 1
29. 8.72 USA 2, Canada 2
3.10.72 Mexico 3, USA 1
6.10.72 Mexico 2, Canada 1
10. 10.72 USA 1, Mexico 2

Group 2

3.12.72 Guatemala 1, El Salvador 0
10.12.72 El Salvador 0, Guatemala 1

Group 3

3.12.72 Honduras 2, Costa Rica 1
10.12.72 Costa Rica 3, Honduras 3

Group 4

11. 6.72 Jamaica v. Neth. Antilles
Neth. Antilles v. Jamaica
Jamaica withdrew

Group 5

15. 4.72 Haiti 7, Puerto Rico 0
26. 9.72 Puerto 0, Haiti 5

Group 6

26.11.72 Surinam 1, Trinidad 2
30.11.72 Trinidad 1, Surinam 1
10.12.72 Surinam 3, Antigua 1
3.12.72 Antigua 0, Surinam 6
10.11.72 Trinidad 11, Antigua 1
19.11.72 Antigua 1, Trinidad 2

EUROPE

Group 1

14.11.71 Malta 0, Hungary 2
30. 4.72 Austria 4, Malta 0
6. 5.72 Hungary 3, Malta 0
25. 5.72 Sweden 0, Hungary 0
10. 6.72 Austria 2, Sweden 0
15.10.72 Sweden 7, Malta 0
15.10.72 Austria 2, Hungary 2
25.11.72 Malta 0 v. Austria 2
29. 4.73 Hungary v. Austria 3-2
24. 5.73 Sweden v. Austria 3-2
13. 6.73 Hungary v. Sweden
11.11.73 Malta v. Sweden

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Austria	4	3	1	0	10	2	7
Hungary	4	2	2	0	7	2	6
Sweden	3	1	1	1	7	2	3
Malta	5	0	0	5	0	18	0

Group 2

8.10.72 Luxembourg 0, Italy 4
21.10.72 Switzerland 0, Italy 0
22.10.72 Luxembourg 2, Turkey 0
10.12.72 Turkey 3, Luxembourg 0
13. 1.73 Italy 0, v. Turkey 0
25. 2.73 Turkey 0, v. Italy 1
31. 3.73 Italy v. Luxembourg 5-0
8. 4.73 Luxembourg v. Switzerland
9. 5.73 Switzerland v. Turkey 0-0

Classified results ... European details ... league tables ... Classified

WORLD CUP

MARCH 28

MARCH 31

Italy (2) 5 (Riva 4, Rivera)
Luxembourg (0) 0

Italy: Zoff, Burgnich, Sabadini, Spinosi, Facchetti, Benetti, Capello, Rivera (Sala), Anastasi (Pulici), Mazzola, Riva.

Luxembourg: Zender; Jeitz, Kirsch, Hansen, Da Graca, Trierweiler (Weiss), Philipp, Fandel, Duisier, Braun, Langers.

Wales (0) 2 (James, Hockey)
Poland (0) 0

Wales: Sprake; Rodrigues, Thomas, Roberts (D), Roberts (J), Hockey, James, Yorath, Toshack, Mahoney, Evans.

Poland: Tomaszewski; Gut, Gorgon, Anczok, Maszczyk (Wojciechowski), Cmikiewicz, Kasperczak, Kraska, Deyna, Lubanski, Gadocha.

UEFA CUP

Borussia Moenchengladbach (2) 7 (Jensen 2, Netzer, Heynckes 3, 1 pen, Danner pen)
Kaiserslautern (1) 1 (Seel)

FRIENDLIES

Poland (2) 4 (Lubanski 3, Kasperczak)
U.S.A. (0) 0

Poland: Tomaszewski (Szeja); Musial, Cmikiewicz, Gorgon, Anczok, Kasperczak, Deyna, Kraska (Maszczyk), Lato (Wojciechowski), Lubanski, Gadocha.

U.S.A.: Ivanov; Ziaja, Barto, Roth, Mata, Renshaw, Zeisler (Britzell), Cougan (Gettinger), McMillan, Metidieri, Siega (Moore).

Austria (1) 1 (Kogelberger)
Holland (0) 0

Austria: Koncilia; Schmidradner, Sturmberger, Schlicher (Pumm), Krieger (Sara), Hattenberger, Hasil, Starek, Hickersberger, (Gallos), Parits, Kogelberger.

Holland: Van Beveren; Schneider, Mansveld, Huhhoff, Kreef, Haan, De Jong, Van Hanegem, (Sourbier), Reve van de Kerkhof, Jeuring, Keizer.

West Germany (1) 3 (Muller 2, 1 pen, Kremers)
Czechoslovakia (0) 0

West Germany: Franke; Vogts, Schwarzenbeck, Beckenbauer, Breitner, Flohe, Overath, Hoeness (Cullmann), Heynckes, Muller, Kremers.

Czechoslovakia: Kekeli; Dobias, Zlocha, Samek, Hagara, Bicovsky (Tomanek), Kuna, Adamec, Bohumil Vesely, Jarkovsky, Gajdusek (Kabat).

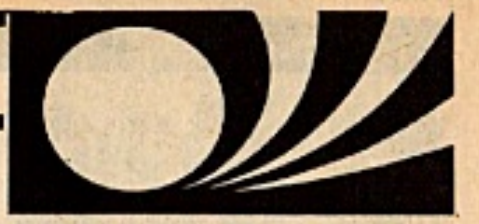
WEST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bayern Munich	27	20	2	5	74	26	42
Wuppertaler SV	26	13	8	5	47	30	34
Borussia Moenchengladbach	27	15	3	9	63	49	33
IFC Cologne	27	12	9	6	54	39	33
Fortuna Dusseldorf	26	12	8	6	52	39	32
Kickers Offenbach	26	12	6	9	51	45	30
MSV Duisburg	27	10	8	9	46	39	28
VFB Stuttgart	27	13	2	12	34	51	28
Kaiserslautern	27	9	10	8	44	47	28
VFL Bochum	26	10	7	9	38	48	27
Eintracht Frankfurt	26	11	3	12	41	42	25
Werder Bremen	27	9	6	12	34	38	24
Hannover 96	26	7	7	12	27	52	21
Hamburger SV	27	7	7	13	39	51	21
Eintracht Brunswick	27	8	5	14	28	43	21
Hertha Berlin	26	6	7	13	34	54	19
Schalke 04	27	6	7	14	34	49	19
Rot Weiss Oberhausen	27	6	3	18	34	66	15

SWITZERLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Basel	18	11	4	3	36	22	26
Grasshoppers	18	9	5	4	40	23	23
Winterthur	18	9	5	4	31	17	23
Sion	18	9	5	4	24	20	23
Lugano	17	7	7	3	20	19	21
Zurich	17	8	4	5	24	18	20
Servette	17	8	3	6	24	17	19
Lausanne	18	6	5	7	31	22	17
Young Boys	18	7	3	8	24	26	17
Chiasso	18	5	4	9	12	27	14
Chaux-de-Fonds	16	4	5	7	19	28	13
St Gallen	17	4	3	10	20	32	11
Fribourg	18	2	6	10	14	28	10
Grenchen	18	3	3	12	13	33	9

ults...dates...tables...results



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26. 9.73 Switzerland v. Luxembourg
20.10.73 Italy v. Switzerland
18.11.73 Turkey v. Switzerland

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Italy	5	3	2	0	10	0	8
Turkey	4	1	1	2	3	3	3
Luxemburg	4	1	0	3	2	12	2
Switzerland	1	0	1	0	0	0	1

Group 3

18. 5.72 Belgium 4, Iceland 0
22. 5.72 Iceland 0, Belgium 4 (In Belgium)
2. 8.72 Norway 4, Iceland 1
4.10.72 Norway 0, Belgium 2
1.11.72 Netherlands 9, Norway 0
19.11.72 Belgium 0 v. Netherlands 0
2. 8.73 Iceland v. Norway
22. 8.73 Netherlands v. Iceland
29. 8.73 Iceland v. Netherlands (In Netherlands)
12. 9.73 Norway v. Netherlands
31.10.73 Belgium v. Norway
18.11.73 Netherlands v. Belgium

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Belgium	4	3	1	0	10	0	7
Netherlands	2	1	1	0	9	0	3
Norway	3	1	0	2	4	12	2
Iceland	3	0	0	3	1	12	0

Group 4

21. 6.72 Finland 1, Albania 0
20. 9.72 Finland 1, Rumania 1
7.10.72 East Germany 5, Finland 0
29.10.72 Rumania 2, Albania 0
8. 4.73 East Germany v. Albania 2-0
6. 5.73 Albania v. Rumania 1-4
27. 5.73 Rumania v. East Germany 1-0
6. 6.73 Finland v. East Germany 1-5
26. 9.73 East Germany v. Rumania
10.10.73 Albania v. Finland
14.10.73 Rumania v. Finland
3.11.73 Albania v. East Germany

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rumania	2	1	1	0	3	1	3
Finland	3	1	1	1	2	6	3
East Germany	1	1	0	0	5	0	2
Albania	2	0	0	2	0	3	0

Group 5

17.10.73 England v. Poland
15.11.72 Wales 0 v. England 1
24. 1.73 England 1 v. Wales 1
28. 3.73 Wales 2, Poland 0
6. 6.73 Poland v. England 2-0
26. 9.73 Poland v. Wales

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	2	1	1	0	2	1	3
Wales	3	1	1	1	3	2	3
Poland	1	0	0	1	0	2	0

Group 6

29. 3.72 Portugal 4, Cyprus 0
10. 5.72 Cyprus 0, Portugal 1
18.10.72 Bulgaria 3, Northern Ireland 0
19.11.72 Cyprus 0 v. Bulgaria 4
14. 2.73 Cyprus 1, v. Northern Ireland 0
28. 3.73 Northern Ireland 1, Portugal 1
2. 5.73 Bulgaria v. Portugal 2-1
9. 5.73 Northern Ireland v. Cyprus 3-0
26. 9.73 Northern Ireland v. Bulgaria
13.10.73 Portugal v. Bulgaria
14.11.73 Portugal v. Northern Ireland
18.11.73 Bulgaria v. Cyprus

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Portugal	3	2	1	0	6	1	5
Bulgaria	2	2	0	0	7	0	4
N. Ireland	2	0	1	1	1	4	1
Cyprus	3	0	0	3	0	9	0

Group 7

19.10.72 Spain 2, Yugoslavia 2
18.11.72 Yugoslavia 1 v. Greece 0
17. 1.73 Greece 2, Spain 3
21. 2.73 Spain 3, Greece 1
21.10.73 Yugoslavia v. Spain
19.12.73 Greece v. Yugoslavia

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	3	2	1	0	8	5	5
Yugoslavia	2	1	1	0	3	2	3
Greece	3	0	0	3	3	7	0

Group 8

18.10.72 Denmark 1, Scotland 4
15.11.72 Scotland 2, Denmark 0
2. 5.73 Denmark v. Czechoslovakia 1-1
6. 6.73 Czechoslovakia v. Denmark 6-0
26. 9.73 Scotland v. Czechoslovakia
17.10.73 Czechoslovakia v. Scotland

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Scotland	2	2	0	0	6	1	4
Denmark	2	0	0	2	1	6	0
Czechoslovakia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Group 9

13.10.72 France 1, USSR 0
18.10.72 Eire 1, USSR 2
15.11.72 Eire 2 v. France 1
13. 5.73 USSR v. Eire 1-0
19. 5.73 France v. Eire 1-1
26. 5.73 USSR v. France 2-0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	1	0	1	2	2	2
USSR	2	1	0	1	2	2	2
Eire	2	1	0	1	3	3	2

SOUTH AMERICA

Group 1

21. 6.73 Colombia v. Ecuador
24. 6.73 Colombia v. Uruguay
28. 6.73 Ecuador v. Columbia
1. 7.73 Ecuador v. Uruguay
5. 7.73 Uruguay v. Colombia
8. 7.73 Uruguay v. Ecuador

Group 2

2. 9.73 Bolivia v. Paraguay
9. 9.73 Argentina v. Bolivia
16. 9.73 Paraguay v. Argentina
23. 9.73 Bolivia v. Argentina
30. 9.73 Paraguay v. Bolivia
7.10.73 Argentina v. Paraguay

Group 3

3. 5.73 Chile v. Peru 2-2
17. 5.73 Peru v. Chile 1-2
(Venezuela withdrew)

results ... European details ... league tables ... Classified results ...

ENGLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Liverpool	36	22	9	5	65	37	53
Arsenal	37	22	8	7	51	33	52
Leeds United	34	18	10	6	57	35	46
Ipswich Town	35	16	10	9	49	36	42
Newcastle United	36	15	11	10	54	42	41
Wolverhampton	35	15	10	10	53	43	40
West Ham	36	15	9	12	38	45	39
Derby County	36	15	7	14	44	51	37
Tottenham Hotspur	34	13	10	11	46	37	36
Coventry City	35	13	9	13	38	40	35
Chelsea	35	10	14	11	43	44	34
Southampton	36	9	16	11	35	41	34
Manchester City	36	12	9	15	47	54	33
Leicester City	36	9	14	13	37	42	32
Birmingham City	36	10	11	15	42	49	31
Sheffield United	36	11	9	16	39	51	31
Everton	34	11	8	15	32	36	30
Stoke City	36	10	9	17	30	50	29
Manchester United	35	9	11	15	37	55	29
Crystal Palace	35	8	11	16	36	44	27
Norwich City	35	8	9	18	30	54	25
West Bromwich	36	7	10	19	30	54	24

NORTHERN IRELAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Crusaders	18	10	4	4	40	20	24
Portadown	17	9	5	3	26	19	23
Ards	15	9	4	2	36	15	22
Coleraine	14	10	1	3	40	16	21
Linfield	16	8	2	6	26	23	18
Glentoran	16	7	3	6	41	26	17
Glenavon	17	7	3	7	22	23	17
Ballymena	19	6	4	9	19	28	16
Bangor	17	4	7	6	25	26	15
Distillery	17	5	4	8	30	41	14
Cliftonville	16	3	1	12	16	53	7
Larne	18	2	2	14	22	53	6

SCOTLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rangers	30	23	3	4	67	27	49
Celtic	29	21	5	3	76	27	47
Hibernian	29	19	5	5	72	26	43
Aberdeen	30	14	9	7	51	29	37
Dundee	30	15	7	8	59	37	37
Dundee United	30	16	4	10	51	43	36
Ayr United	30	14	6	10	44	48	34
Hearts	30	12	5	13	36	44	29
East Fife	30	11	6	13	43	48	28
St Johnstone	30	10	8	12	47	56	28
Morton	30	9	8	13	41	46	26
Partick Thistle	30	9	6	15	35	45	24
Motherwell	28	8	8	12	32	43	24
Arbroath	30	9	6	15	37	56	24
Falkirk	30	5	11	14	30	49	21
Dumbarton	30	4	10	16	36	65	18
Kilmarnock	30	6	6	18	34	65	18
Airdrieonians	30	3	7	20	31	68	13

EAST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dynamo Dresden	15	10	5	0	33	14	25
Carl Zeiss Jena	15	9	3	3	24	12	21
Magdeburg	15	8	3	4	27	12	19
Dynamo Berlin	15	6	5	4	26	19	17
Karl-Marx-Stadt	15	6	4	5	16	21	16
Sachsenring	15	6	3	6	22	20	15
Wismut Aue	15	6	3	6	16	20	15
Vorwaerts Frankfurt	15	5	4	6	30	26	14
Lokomotiv Leipzig	15	6	1	8	31	29	13
Chemie Leipzig	15	3	7	5	11	13	13
Hansa Rostock	15	4	4	7	21	28	12
Chemie Halle	15	3	6	6	19	30	12
Rot Weiss Erfurt	15	4	2	9	22	34	10
Union Berlin	15	3	2	10	10	30	8

AUSTRIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rapid Vienna	18	10	5	3	33	17	25
Innsbruck	18	10	4	4	28	13	24
Admira/Wacker	18	9	6	3	30	11	24
Linz ASK	18	7	8	3	28	14	22
Alpine Donawitz	18	7	8	3	22	20	22
Austria Salzburg	18	9	3	6	24	17	21
Graz AK	18	7	6	5	24	15	20
VOeEST Linz	18	8	4	6	29	21	20
Wiener Sportklub	18	6	6	6	19	24	18
FK Austria	18	6	5	7	27	23	17
Austria Klagenfurt	18	8	1	9	21	29	17
Vienna	18	5	5	8	25	31	15
Eisenstadt	18	5	3	10	17	21	13
Sturm Graz	18	4	5	9	13	26	13
Wiener Neustadt	18	3	4	11	15	40	10
Bregenz	18	2	3	13	11	34	7

SPAIN

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Barcelona	27	15	8	4	32	13	38
Real Madrid	27	15	6	6	36	19	36
Espanol	27	14	8	5	39	22	36
Atletico Madrid	27	15	6	6	34	21	36
Malaga	27	10	8	9	30	23	28
Castellon	27	11	5	11	33	31	27
Real Zaragoza	27	9	9	9	26	27	27
Atletico Bilbao	26	9	7	10	28	29	25
Granada	27	8	9	10	21	23	25
Valencia	27	8	8	11	30	29	24
Gijon	27	9	6	12	25	27	24
Oviedo	27	7	10	10	27	34	24
Las Palmas	27	9	6	12	28	36	24
Betis	27	6	9	12	22	28	21
Celta Vigo	27	7	7	13	20	28	21
Burgos	27	8	5	14	28	44	21
Coruna	26	5	10	11	15	34	20

Classified results ... European details ... league tables ... Classified

POLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Stal Mielec	16	7	7	2	28	14	21
Gornik Zabrze	16	8	5	3	16	6	21
Wisla Krakow	16	10	1	5	23	15	21
Ruch Chorzow	16	8	4	4	19	10	20
LKS Lodz	16	7	6	3	19	14	20
Gwardia Warsaw	16	7	5	4	21	14	19
ROW Rybnik	16	4	7	5	11	14	15
Zaglebie Sosnowiec	16	5	4	7	16	18	14
Legia Warsaw	16	3	8	5	12	14	14
Lech	16	4	6	6	8	16	14
Zaglebie Walbrzych	16	5	2	9	15	22	12
Polonia Bytom	16	4	4	8	12	25	12
Odra	16	2	7	7	13	24	11
Pogon	16	3	4	9	14	21	10

GREECE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Olympiakos Piraeus	25	19	5	1	49	7	68
PAOK Salonika	25	20	3	2	55	16	68
Panathinaikos	25	16	4	5	56	19	58
Panathaiki	25	11	11	3	29	14	58
AEK Athens	25	12	8	5	33	23	57
Panionios	25	9	8	8	31	22	51
Ethnikos	25	8	10	7	26	24	51
Aris Salonika	25	8	9	8	21	22	50
Iraklis	25	8	8	9	28	29	49
Kavala	25	7	10	8	24	27	49
Aigaleo	25	8	6	11	23	38	47
Kalamata	25	6	8	11	22	34	45
Atromitos	25	6	8	11	11	31	45
Panseraikos	25	3	13	9	19	30	44
Fostir	25	6	6	13	15	30	43
Olympiakos Volos	25	5	8	12	19	38	43
Trikala	25	3	6	16	16	42	37
Omonia	25	1	7	17	19	50	33

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spartak Trnava	18	9	7	2	27	10	25
Tatran Presov	19	1	3	5	25	20	25
VSS Kosice	19	9	4	6	33	18	22
ZVL Zilina	19	10	2	7	33	24	22
Dukla Prague	19	7	6	6	19	16	20
Slovan Bratislava	18	7	5	6	23	19	19
Union Teplice	19	8	3	8	22	18	19
Sparta Prague	19	7	5	7	28	30	19
Lokomotiv Kosice	19	7	5	7	23	26	19
AC Nitra	18	8	2	8	21	23	18
Banik Ostrava	19	6	5	8	20	22	17
Skoda Plzen	19	6	4	9	24	26	16
Hradec Kralove	19	6	4	9	16	37	16
Zbrojovka Brno	18	5	5	8	27	29	15
TZ Trinec	19	3	9	7	11	21	15
Slavia Prague	19	3	7	9	16	29	13

TURKEY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Galatasaray	23	14	8	1	36	7	36
Fenerbahce	23	14	6	3	33	12	34
Eskisehirspor	23	10	8	5	27	18	28
Ankaragucu	23	10	7	6	19	14	27
Boluspor	23	9	7	7	25	23	25
Goztepe Izmir	23	9	6	8	22	22	24
Besiktas	23	6	12	5	10	12	24
Giresun	23	9	5	9	21	22	23
Samsunspor	23	8	7	8	20	27	23
Atlay Izmir	23	8	5	10	21	18	21
Bursaspor	23	4	13	6	18	21	21
Mersin Idman Yurdu	23	5	9	9	16	21	19
Adanaspor	23	6	7	10	17	26	19
PTT	23	2	11	10	16	28	15
Vefa	23	4	7	12	19	32	15
Sekersport	23	3	8	12	11	30	14

FRANCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nantes	28	16	7	5	49	26	39
Nice	29	15	9	5	55	29	39
Marseille	28	15	6	7	48	26	36
Nimes	28	14	8	6	37	24	36
Nancy	28	12	9	7	44	34	33
Angers	28	13	7	8	39	35	33
St Etienne	28	12	7	9	45	38	31
Bastia	28	12	6	10	47	28	30
Metz	28	11	7	10	31	40	29
Lyon	28	11	6	11	44	45	28
Reims	28	9	9	10	35	37	27
Bordeaux	28	9	7	12	37	39	25
Sochaux	28	8	9	11	33	40	25
Rennes	28	8	8	12	32	39	24
Paris FC	28	7	9	12	38	44	23
Strasbourg	28	6	11	11	31	44	23
Sedan	29	7	8	14	36	56	22
Red Star Paris	28	6	9	13	28	40	21
Valenciennes	28	6	8	14	26	38	20
Ajaccio	28	6	6	16	29	62	18

ITALY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AC Milan	23	15	6	2	50	21	36
Juventus	23	12	9	2	28	13	33
Lazio	23	12	9	2	26	12	33
Inter-Milan	23	11	5	7	25	20	27
Fiorentina	23	10	6	7	27	23	26
Torino	23	10	5	8	27	15	25
Bologna	23	9	6	8	20	19	24
Cagliari	23	7	8	8	19	20	22
Napoli	23	6	9	8	13	15	21
Verona	23	4	12	7	19	23	20
Roma	23	6	7	10	20	23	19
Sampdoria	23	4	11	8	11	16	19
Atalanta	23	3	12	8	13	25	18
Vicenza	23	4	9	10	10	26	17
Palermo	23	3	9	11	9	27	15
Ternana	23	3	7	13	12	31	13

LUXEMBOURG

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Jeunesse D'Esch	20	15	4	1	59	19	34
Union Luxembourg	20	9	8	3	50	32	26
Fola Esch	20	9	6	5	41	27	24
Etzella	20	8	6	6	49	45	22
Red Boys	19	9	3	7	45	32	21
Rummelingen	20	7	7	6	32	31	21
Avenir Beggen	20	8	4	8	44	46	20
Aris	20	6	8	6	25	28	20
Spora	20	6	5	9	31	37	17
The National	19	4	6	9	27	33	14
Tetingen	20	4	5	11	25	47	13
Sporting Bettembourg	20	2	2	16	21	72	6

MOROCCO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Fes	24	13	6	5	34	14	56
Kenitra	24	9	11	4	30	21	53
Rabat	24	9	10	5	30	27	52
FUS	24	6	14	4	24	22	50
Mohammadia	24	10	5	9	36	28	49
Oujda	24	9	7	8	24	24	49
El-Jadida	24	9	7	8	22	22	49
WAC	24	7	10	7	21	21	48
TAS	24	8	8	8	29	29	48
Beni Mellal	24	8	8	8	17	22	48
Settat	24	7	9	8	22	21	47
FAR	24	6	10	8	22	23	46
Khemisset	24	6	10	8	19	22	46
ADM	24	7	6	11	20	23	44
Sidi-Kacem	24	5	10	9	23	33	44
Youssoufia	24	5	5	14	13	26	39

RUMANIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Steaua	18	9	5	4	29	14	23
Dinamo	18	10	3	5	28	18	23
CFR Cluj	18	7	7	4	21	16	21
Uni. Craiova	18	7	7	4	30	25	21
SC Bacau	18	8	5	5	23	21	21
Petrosani	18	8	4	6	23	21	20
Pitesti	18	8	3	7	27	17	19
Ploesti	18	7	5	6	15	16	19
Brasov	18	6	5	7	23	14	17
ASATO Mures	18	8	1	9	26	30	17
Rapid	18	5	6	7	20	19	16
Uni. Cluj	18	6	4	8	17	29	16
UT Arad	18	4	7	7	19	23	15
FC Constantza	18	5	4	9	13	24	14
CSM Resita	18	3	8	7	16	27	14
Sportul Student	18	3	6	9	17	33	12

ARGENTINA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Huracan	4	4	0	0	16	4	8
Boca Juniors	4	3	0	1	11	3	6
San Lorenzo	4	2	2	0	8	5	6
River Plate	4	3	0	1	10	7	6
Independiente	3	2	1	0	6	1	5
Velez Sarsfield	3	2	1	0	4	0	5
Estudiantes	4	2	1	1	7	5	5
Argentinos	4	2	0	2	8	12	4
Atlanta	4	2	0	2	6	10	4
Chacarita Boys	4	1	1	2	3	8	3
Gimnasia y Estrima	4	1	1	2	2	7	3
Racing	3	0	2	1	2	3	2
Newell's Old Boys	4	1	0	3	6	7	2
Rosario Central	4	0	2	2	3	5	2
Colon	4	0	2	2	2	6	2
Ferrocerril Oeste	3	0	1	2	0	2	1
All Boys	4	0	0	4	3	12	0

ALGERIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nasrd	21	9	12	0	27	14	51
MC Alger	21	11	6	4	39	22	49
JSK	21	8	9	4	29	23	46
Annaba	21	11	3	7	30	24	46
USM Bel Abbes	21	9	5	7	27	19	44
MC Oran	21	8	7	5	31	23	44
MO Constantine	21	9	3	9	27	24	42
USM Blida	21	6	9	6	29	30	42
NAR Alger	20	7	6	7	28	22	40
ASM Oran	21	6	7	8	23	35	40
JSM Tiaret	20	6	5	9	18	20	39
ES Setif	21	7	4	10	21	22	39
CR Belcourt	21	6	6	9	19	24	39
Mascara	21	4	8	9	16	26	39
ES Constantine	21	4	8	9	18	27	37
CR Jijet	21	4	4	13	16	36	33

YUGOSLAVIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Red Star Belgrade	22	14	5	3	41	13	33
Velez	22	11	9	2	35	16	31
OFK Belgrade	22	11	7	4	33	19	29
Partizan Belgrade	22	11	6	5	33	24	28
Sarajevo	22	10	5	7	37	31	25
Sloboda	22	8	8	6	26	19	24
Zeljeznicar	22	9	5	8	31	29	23
Radnicki	22	9	4	9	19	24	22
Borac	22	7	7	8	19	15	21
Vardar	22	7	7	8	23	29	21
Vojvodina	22	7	5	10	27	28	19
Celik	22	7	5	10	19	34	19
Hajduk Split	22	8	2	12	29	32	18
Olimpija	22	6	6	10	20	25	18
Dinamo Zagreb	22	6	6	10	17	30	18
Bor	22	6	6	10	20	35	18
Spartak	22	5	5	12	23	35	15
Sutjeska	22	5	4	13	19	35	14

HUNGARY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ujpest Dozsa	20	16	1	3	55	12	33
Vasas Budapest	20	12	4	4	36	21	28
Ferencvaros	20	11	5	4	42	25	27
Honved	20	8	7	5	40	24	23
Raba ETO	20	11	1	8	34	25	23
Videoton	20	10	3	7	28	23	23
Csepel	20	6	10	4	30	21	22
Zalaegaszeg	20	7	4	9	33	27	18
Szeged	20	5	8	7	21	31	18
Salgotarjan	20	6	5	9	24	31	17
Tatabanya	20	6	5	9	17	24	17
MTK Budapest	20	4	9	7	21	29	17
Egyeterles	20	5	7	8	19	32	17
Komlo	20	2	9	9	15	35	13
Pecs	20	2	8	10	14	33	12
Diosgyor	20	3	6	11	13	38	12

BULGARIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
CSKA Sofia	22	14	4	4	50	25	32
Slavia Sofia	22	11	7	4	35	22	29
Levski Spartak	22	11	5	6	42	22	27
Lokomotiv Plovdiv	22	11	5	6	39	22	27
Spartak Pleven	22	10	4	8	33	28	24
Akademik Sofia	22	8	7	7	38	25	23
Lokomotiv Sofia	22	9	5	8	28	33	23
Pernik	22	7	9	6	23	29	23
Dounav	22	9	5	8	20	30	23
Trakia Plovdiv	22	8	5	9	28	26	21
Tscherno More	22	8	5	9	31	35	21
Tschernomoretz	21	8	3	10	20	29	19
Botev Vratza	21	8	3	10	27	38	19
Beros	22	8	3	11	32	26	19
Etar Tirnovo	22	5	9	8	23	32	19
Lankov Jambol	22	7	4	11	25	36	18
ESK Spartak Varna	22	4	7	11	17	38	15
Volov Schumen	22	3	6	13	17	32	12

EIRE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Waterford	23	18	2	3	61	18	38
Finn Harps	24	17	3	4	54	29	37
Bohemians	23	14	5	4	42	24	33
Cork Hibernians	22	12	6	4	47	21	30
Athlone Town	23	11	4	8	31	28	26
Shamrock Rovers	22	10	4	8	32	28	24
St Patrick's	22	7	7	8	28	34	21
Limerick	23	7	6	10	30	27	20
Cork Celtic	23	6	4	13	23	43	16
Sligo Rovers	23	7	2	14	23	48	16
Drumcondra	23	5	6	12	24	54	16
Dundalk	23	4	5	14	18	39	13
Drogheda	23	0	8	15	18	50	8

PORTUGAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Benfica	24	23	1	0	78	12	47
Belenenses	24	12	10	2	43	22	34
Vitoria Setubal	24	12	5	7	58	22	29
Sporting Club	24	12	5	7	48	26	29
Porto	24	11	6	7	44	23	28
Guimaraes	24	9	8	7	33	27	26
Boavista	24	10	6	8	33	39	26
CUF Barreiro	24	9	6	9	30	29	24
Leixoes	24	9	6	9	25	35	24
Montijo	24	8	4	12	22	29	20
Barreirense	24	7	5	12	32	50	19
Boira-Mar	24	5	9	10	22	42	19
Farense	24	6	7	11	21	43	19
Coimbra	24	5	5	14	18	41	15
Tomar	24	5	4	15	22	58	14
Atletico Lisbon	24	2	7	15	23	47	11

BELGIUM

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
FC Bruges	26	16	8	2	45	19	40
Standard Liege	26	11	12	3	35	20	34
Racing White	26	10	13	3	40	14	33
Beerschot	26	13	6	7	34	25	32
Anderlecht	26	11	9	6	41	24	31
Malines	26	9	13	4	32	24	31
Antwerp	26	12	4	10	39	30	28
Lierse SK	26	10	8	8	39	36	28
Berchem	26	9	8	9	22	24	26
CS Bruges	26	8	9	9	30	36	25
Beringen	26	8	7	11	26	35	23
Liege	26	7	9	10	24	31	23
St Trond	26	5	11	10	22	32	21
Union St Gilloise	26	4	10	12	16	33	18
Diest	26	4	5	17	23	50	13
Cronsing	26	2	6	18	15	50	10

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ajax Amsterdam	27	24	0	3	86	14	48
Feyenoord	26	21	2	3	67	19	44
Sparta Rotterdam	27	17	4	6	69	27	38
Twente	26	16	5	5	39	19	37
FC Den Haag	27	13	8	6	38	25	34
PSV Eindhoven	26	12	6	8	39	29	30
MVV Maastricht	27	11	7	9	39	33	29
Amsterdam	27	11	6	10	41	39	28
Utrecht	27	10	6	11	36	44	26
Tehtar	26	10	3	13	30	38	23
NEC Nijmegen	27	8	7	12	33	41	23
AZ Alkmaar	27	8	6	13	30	48	22
Haarlem	27	7	7	13	30	45	21
Go Ahead	27	6	7	14	25	41	19
Groningen	26	4	10	12	27	51	18
NAC Breda	26	5	7	14	20	45	17
FC Den Bosch	27	3	7	17	15	56	13
Excelsior	27	2	6	19	13	63	10

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